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Can U.S. Persuade Eastern Europe to Be Patient on NATO?

By Craig R. Whitney

BONN — As President Bill Clinton and other NATO leaders prepare for a summit meeting in Brussels next week to try to define a new post-Cold War role for the alliance, the key question, according to many Western officials and diplomats, is this:

Will the U.S. proposal for a Partnership for Peace between the alliance and all the former Communist countries on the Continent, including Russia, convince the leaders of Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary that the way is open for them to join later as full members, despite Russian objections?

If it does convince them, and if the Russians also accept a closer association with the allies as part of the Partnership, then Mr. Clinton can count the Brussels meeting a success when he leaves Jan. 11, and tell it at one when he flies on to Prague and Moscow.

But if the proposal is not presented convincingly, in the view of many Europeans from both

sides of the former Iron Curtain, the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe will see themselves as once again sacrificed on the altar of great-power interests because Washington is more worried about Moscow's needs than about their own.

Though it may come as a surprise to those who wonder why anybody cares about NATO

NEWS ANALYSIS

at all, now that the Cold War is over, many East and West Europeans view the alliance as a source of protection not only from communism in Russia, but also from the instability that ultranationalism and ethnic conflict unleashed in Eastern Europe after communism collapsed.

Even though NATO has not been able to stop the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, most Europeans still look to the alliance as the best hope of deterring similar conflicts elsewhere, and will view the summit declaration as a crucial signal.

Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski of Po-

land stated the East Europeans' concerns in an article published Monday in the Frankfurter Rundschau.

"Poland is against the isolation of Russia," Mr. Olechowski wrote. "A strong and democratic Russia will be the strongest guarantee of peace and stability in Europe. We are not afraid of Russia, but of objective situations that could provoke her to behave in a way threatening to Poland. Such a situation is the security vacuum that now exists in Central Europe."

The Partnership for Peace will be welcome in Warsaw, Mr. Olechowski wrote, but only if it opens up the prospect of something more. "It should spell out the final goal — membership in the Atlantic alliance for those who meet the established criteria," he said.

In an interview in Brussels, the U.S. ambassador to NATO, Robert E. Hunter, said Mr. Olechowski's conditions would be met.

"In the declaration, there will be a form of words that makes clear that NATO is prepared

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Can't Expand Now, General Warns

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Shalikashvili, warned Tuesday that immediate expansion of the NATO alliance could have a destabilizing effect on Europe.

Defending the administration's plan to invite nonalliance nations to participate in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization without granting them military protections, he said that "membership to some and exclusion of others would be counter to Europe's best interests."

"NATO has never been a closed society," he said. "We hope that the process can lead to an extension of membership but who, when and how — it's a premature question."

"Accepting some and leaving some out at this critical period of time," he said, "I think

Outspoken UN General Withdrawn From Bosnia

Senior Belgian Officer Had Complained About Inability to Intervene

Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The Sarajevo-based Belgian general in charge of UN forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina is to be withdrawn, Brussels said Tuesday, amid outspoken complaints by him and other top peacekeepers over their powerlessness to intervene in the war.

Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont was due to end his term as military commander here in July, but Belgium said Tuesday it wanted to recall him.

The move was condemned by a top Bosnian government official. Ejup Ganic, No. 2 to President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, said Belgium's decision showed that the international community was not taking the crisis in Bosnia seriously.

Mr. Ganic said that every time a UN representative got to grips with the Bosnian problem he was replaced.

A UN spokesman said in New York that General Briquemont had asked to be relieved of his post for personal reasons and that a successor was being considered.

Defense Minister Leo Delcroix of Belgium told the Belgian VTM television network that General Briquemont had asked in mid-December whether he could return home in January.

"Briquemont has already been there for six months, in the heart of Sarajevo virtually without night's rest," Mr. Delcroix said. "There's shooting day and night. It's a very demanding job so it's logical that after a half year you are exhausted."

The withdrawal of General Briquemont followed an interview he gave last week in which he said:

"I don't read the Security Council resolutions any more because they don't help me." He added: "There is a fantastic gap between the resolutions of the Security Council, the will to execute those resolutions and the means available to commanders in the field."

Belgian defense officials had said earlier that Brussels had asked for General Briquemont to return because he was needed to help restructure his country's defense force.

General Briquemont's predecessor as the UN's top soldier in Bosnia, General Philippe Morillon of France, had also frequently expressed anger at the lack of means to protect civilians in Bosnia and stop attacks on UN aid convoys.

Belgium's decision came as Sarajevo trembled under heavy shelling that killed nine people, and UN officials prepared to double the number of airdrops to Bosnians threatened by cold and starvation.

Serbian bombardment of the city, along with fighting between Muslim-led government and Croatian forces in central Bosnia, continued to make a mockery of what was supposed to be a holiday truce.

"This has been one of the most difficult days for us," said Dr. Naim Kadic, duty doctor at Kosevo Hospital, where surgeons routinely operate without light or heat.

Across Bosnia, 106 people were killed and 407 wounded during the 12-day holiday truce period that ended early Tuesday, Bosnian radio said. That included 39 dead and 200 wounded in Sarajevo, where at least 26 lives have been lost since the New Year started.

The announcement of the move on General Briquemont comes at a delicate moment for NATO. Leaders of the alliance are to meet in Brussels next week to discuss a new role for the alliance in the post-Cold War world. Some officials fear that attention could be drawn to the alliance's lack of power to do anything

See BALKANS, Page 6

Japanese Banks Deeper in Debt Than They Had Acknowledged

Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches

TOKYO — Japan's commercial banks are holding 6.7 trillion yen (\$59.6 billion) more in nonperforming loans than they reported this fall, according to one of two reports Tuesday that revealed new depths to the banking system's bad-debt troubles.

If the figures are correct, the banks would actually hold 15.948 trillion yen in nonperforming loans, 72 percent more than previously acknowledged. The report, in the Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper, was not dated Tuesday.

In the second report, the agency set up by Japanese banks a year ago to absorb bad loans said that it had acquired nonperforming assets worth 2.202 trillion yen since March.

The figures, announced by the Cooperative Credit Purchasing Co., showed that banks were suffering even-larger losses on debt write-offs.

Investors have been concerned in recent months over the financial health of Japan's major banks, which have been slow to fully disclose the extent of their bad debts.

The banks in the Yomiuri report had acknowledged a total of 9.248 trillion yen in nonperforming loans as of Sept. 30. But according to the paper, that figure included only loans to companies that were in financial trouble.

It did not include loans to companies the banks are supporting financially in the belief that their fortunes will turn and that they will once again be able to pay off their loans, the paper said. Many of the banks are supporting some companies by lowering interest rates or sending in bank officials to help company management.

Much of each debt is not disclosed when banks report earnings. Indeed, some independent analysts estimate that the bad-debt figure is even higher than in the newspaper report — their estimates range between 20 trillion and 30 trillion yen.

Economists and banking analysts say that the Ministry of Finance urged banks last year to write off all of their bad debts in three years.

But the figures announced by Cooperative Credit Purchasing added to worries about the banks' health because they showed that when the banks did write off their bad debts, they were doing so at ever-greater rates of loss.

The agency said that for loans it acquired since March, it had paid an average of 35 percent of face value, or the amount for which the loan was made. That was down from previous years of about two-thirds of the face value paid for loans the agency acquired before March 31.

(Bloomberg, AFP)



A passenger scrambling aboard a packed train at Belgrade station on Tuesday as chaos increased on the public transport network, devastated by the effects of UN sanctions.

U.S. Backs Down on Frequent North Korea Inspections

By Steven Greenhouse

WASHINGTON — Backing down from previous insistence that North Korea accept frequent nuclear inspections, Clinton administration officials said Tuesday they were close to detaching a 10-month standoff with that country by accepting its offer of a full but one-time-only inspection of seven atomic sites.

American officials described this as an important concession on North Korea's part, but also acknowledged that it fell short of Washington's original demand that the North Koreans allow systematic inspections as required by arms control agreements.

The officials said that no agreement would be finalized until the International Atomic Energy Agency agreed to final terms with North Korea. And they said they would continue to press North Korea to allow additional inspections.

But officials at the international inspection agency in Vienna said they were worried that the agreement would be inadequate and set a bad precedent. They and some Asian diplomats said Tuesday that it would fail to ensure that North Korea does not divert material from nuclear facilities to make atomic bombs.

Clinton administration officials defended the tentative pact they reached with North Korea last week, insisting that it was the best deal that

could be struck at the moment. They said the accord would not only provide for a thorough inspection but would also keep North Korea from withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

"The government's approach is, it wants to be practical, to get the job done," a government official said. "We need to coax the North Koreans back to the nonproliferation treaty regime, without falling on our own sword over phony principle."

Over the last several months, administration officials have taken a tough line publicly with North Korea, vowing to prevent it from acquiring nuclear weapons and warning of economic

sanctions if Pyongyang failed to agree to regular inspections.

But China's reluctance to go along with sanctions made that approach problematic, and administration officials worried in private about the consequences of a showdown with what they see as a volatile regime, and one that also is heavily armed.

Complicating matters further was a recent assessment by the CIA that concluded that North Korea probably has already manufactured one or two nuclear weapons.

The United States has signaled to North Korea that if the International Atomic Energy

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Kiosk Italians Dispute Date for Ballot

ROME (Reuters) — Italy's traditional governing parties called Tuesday for a three-month delay in landmark parliamentary elections, while the groups that benefited from their disgrace in a corruption scandal pressed for a swift vote.

"There is nothing to recommend rushing recklessly towards the elections," said Mino Martinazzoli, leader of the Christian Democrats. That position was seconded by leaders of the Socialists, Liberals and Social Democrats.

Their proposal to delay the vote until June 12 was rejected by the main opposition groups.

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Up	27.30	Up	0.48%
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The Dollar		Previous Close	
New York	1.7355		1.7435
London	1.486		1.4755
Paris	112.65		112.70
Frankfurt	5.8975		5.8935

Newsstand Prices	
Andorra	9.00 FF
Armenia	11.20 FF
Austria	11.20 FF
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France Plans Law to Bar Postmenopausal Pregnancies

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

PARIS — France has announced that it will seek to become the first country to ban artificial insemination for postmenopausal women as part of a landmark legislative effort to cope with the moral and medical dilemmas posed by genetic engineering.

The decision by the French government to introduce legislation that would stop doctors from helping women past child-bearing age to give birth was announced Monday by Health Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy, who called it "both immoral and dangerous" for older women to be implanted with test-tube embryos.

Other officials said the bill also would seek to prevent parents from selecting or determining physical and mental characteristics of their future child.

"I think it is absolutely shocking that a child can be 18 when his mother is 80," Mr. Douste-Blazy said in a radio interview. "It is totally undesired."

He urged women considering such a procedure to give more thought to the child, who medical authorities say would be more susceptible to mental and physical handicaps.

The phenomenon of "retirement pregnancies" attracted wide attention recently in Europe after a 59-year-old British woman gave birth to twins following

treatment at an Italian clinic. The mother, who is said to be a wealthy businesswoman, reportedly is married to a 45-year-old man.

A 62-year-old Italian woman is now three months pregnant after receiving an embryo implant performed by the same doctors. She was quoted as saying she and her husband had wanted a child since their 19-year-old son was killed in an accident in 1992.

French officials said the government was particularly alarmed by advances in medical technology that now made it feasible for women to choose the ethnic identity, physical size or other characteristics of their baby through embryo implants.

"This is nothing less than a question of public order," Jean-Louis Beaumont, a member of Parliament and dean of the medical faculty in Créteil, said in an interview. "The government must get involved when the act of creating a human being does not adequately consider the future of that human being."

Dr. Beaumont, who helped to prod the conservative government into adopting a stronger policy to prevent what he calls an insidious drift toward "genetic manipulation," said the rapid advances in test-tube fertilization made it imperative for societies to move quickly "to preserve the originality and spontaneity of their people."

The government of Prime Minister Edouard Balladur is expected to unveil legislation in the Senate within two weeks before taking it to the National Assembly. The ruling conservative coalition holds a vast majority in both houses.

The centerpiece of the bill, according to Mr. Douste-Blazy, "will state very clearly that medically assisted procreative techniques, especially in vitro insemination, will be reserved for women of child-bearing age, that is, before menopause."

Some argued that the new law was necessary to reinforce the power of the state to prevent abuses that smack of genetic engineering. A de facto bar already prevents women from being implanted with a fertilized embryo from an egg other than their own.

Even if France takes a strict approach to test-tube fertilization, officials here acknowledge that other European governments will have to adopt similarly tough restrictions or else older French women who want to have babies will simply go abroad for treatment.

At some point, the 12-nation European Union will probably have to adopt guidelines, if not a common policy, so that governments can prevent their citizens from circumventing laws by flocking to foreign doctors. The medical ethics debate, however, is changing so rapidly that only a few countries have started to address the issue of "retirement pregnancies."

In Britain, where the issue arose last week, some specialists said they disagreed with an age limit on pregnancies, saying such a restriction would be discriminatory.

In Italy, a pioneer in postmenopausal pregnancies, commentators have warned that the country is in danger of becoming a "genetic supermarket" because of highly publicized embryo implants involving pregnancies of elderly women and the case of a black woman who gave birth to a white baby six months ago. She reportedly asked for an egg from a white donor to be fertilized by her white husband, ostensibly so their child would not suffer racial discrimination.

Proposal Is Denounced

Elisabeth Badinter, the author of a best-seller on male identity, denounced the proposal to ban artificial insemination for postmenopausal women as an assault on freedom of choice. Reuters reported from Paris.

"Nobody has ever banned a 20-year-old girl who is deeply neurotic, addicted to drugs or has AIDS, from having a baby," she said. "Why should a woman of 60, who could be a very good mother, not have the right to have a child?"

"I see perfectly well the dangers of rolling back without limit the age of procreation," she said. "But limiting the right to bear children seems to me even more dangerous."

WORLD BRIEFS

Britain Expels Sudanese Ambassador

LONDON (AP) — The Foreign Office on Tuesday gave the Sudanese ambassador 14 days to leave Britain after Sudan refused to change its decision to expel the British ambassador. A spokesman said the decision to expel Ali Osman Yassin was an "inevitable consequence" of Sudan's decision to expel the British ambassador, Peter Streats.

Sudan ordered Mr. Streats out of the country after the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend George I. Carey, refused to visit the capital, Khartoum, as a guest of the Islamic government of General Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir. He visited southern Sudan last week at the invitation of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

The government had insisted that the Archbishop travel as its guest in the mainly Muslim northern Sudan. Dr. Carey has said he canceled that part of his trip because he was not assured freedom of movement.

Dozens More Die in Kabul Battles

KABUL (Reuters) — Infantry battles raged for a fourth day here on Tuesday, killing dozens and injuring more than 1,700 in a struggle for power between President Burhanuddin Rabbani and a former Communist general, Abdul Rashid Dostum.

Government jets bombed positions held by fighters loyal to General Dostum, and Mr. Rabbani's infantry made advances, pushing back the front line in the south of the city, where much of the fighting has been concentrated. Fighting spread in the north around General Dostum's base of Mazar-i-Sharif.

A Health Ministry spokesman said the number of injured was soaring and that hospitals were running out of medical supplies, blood and even food. "We have 1,700 wounded and 54 dead, although for the dead it is too difficult to say how many," he said.

German Judge May Get Nomination

BERLIN (AP) — After an embarrassing furor toppled their first presidential candidate, German conservatives said Tuesday that they expected to nominate the country's highest judge for the post.

Roman Herzog, 59, president of the Federal Constitutional Court, has been picking up support since Stefan Heilmann, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's choice for the job, withdrew from consideration in November. Mr. Heilmann had angered many people with statements about the Holocaust, women's roles in society and other issues.

Michael Glos, a conservative member of parliament, predicted Tuesday that Mr. Herzog would be officially nominated on Jan. 24 by the Christian Democrats and their Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union. Mr. Herzog has been Germany's chief judge since 1987. Before that, he served as education minister and interior minister in the southern state of Baden-Württemberg.

Cambodia Warns the Khmer Rouge

PHNOM PENH (Reuters) — Cambodia's armed forces warned the Khmer Rouge on Tuesday of an imminent attack and urged guerrilla troops to defect to escape what analysts said could be the biggest anti-rebel offensive in five years.

The ultimate aim of the dry-season offensive was the recapture of the Khmer Rouge's headquarters in western Pailin, a senior government official said.

The appeal was part of a military bulletin included in the radio's morning news report. It was preceded by a demand from Cambodia's two prime ministers, Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, for the guerrillas to join in national reconciliation.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Foxhole Cave-In Derailed TGV

PARIS (Reuters) — A high-speed French TGV train jumped the track last month because rain-soaked ground under its rails collapsed into military trenches and foxholes dug during World War I, railroad officials said Tuesday.

The officials said the underground holes were not pinpointed in documents or geological soundings taken before the high-speed line was built in northern France. But an initial investigation by geological and mining experts has proved that the sudden cave-in of ballast on the line was due to ground weakened by trenches and foxholes.

The train was traveling at its top cruising speed, 300 kilometers (180 miles) an hour, when it derailed on Dec. 21, but the carriages remained upright and no one was seriously injured.

Israel Plans New Tel Aviv Airport

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel plans to build a new Tel Aviv airport to serve as a crossroads to Asia and Africa in a peaceful Middle East before the turn of the century, transport officials said Tuesday. The Transport Ministry said the airport, to be called "Ben Gurion-2000" and to be built in the shape of the Star of David, would quadruple air traffic through Tel Aviv to a capacity of 16 million passengers per year.

The shape of the airport is designed to ensure that pilots clearly recognize it from the air and not land by mistake in Amman, as sometimes happens, an official said. Tel Aviv airport now has a capacity of 4 million to 5 million passengers per day.

A winter storm in the United States tied up traffic, shut rail lines, delayed flights at some airports and dumped more than a foot of snow in places from the Carolinas to Maine on Tuesday. In New York City, the storm left a crust of sleet and slush mixed with rain, playing havoc with commuters. Boston's Logan airport closed for a while, while airports elsewhere in the region were open but experiencing long delays. Pittsburgh's airport said no flights were taking off or arriving. Forecasters said more snow, rain and ice were on the way.

United Airlines will begin an expansion of service to the Pacific from San Francisco that eventually will give it 74 weekly nonstop flights to the region. United is to start its first daily service linking both Beijing and Shanghai on Feb. 13. It added it also would begin three flights each week from San Francisco to Sydney in June.

Maintenance Is Faulted In Russian Jet Disaster

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — Investigators looking into the crash of an airliner in Siberia that killed 121 people cited overloading and a badly repaired engine as possible causes, the press agency Itar-Tass said Tuesday.

The governmental commission investigating Monday's accident said the "most likely" cause was that the aircraft's control engine, recently remounted after an overhaul, had been inadequately repaired, the agency said, citing sources close to the commission.

The sources also said that the plane, a Tu-154, might have been carrying as much as 20 tons of excess weight, which was a factor in two fatal crashes in August that left more than 100 people dead.

Itar-Tass quoted unofficial sources as saying there were four passengers on the plane who had not been included in the passenger list. Crew members often smuggle unlisted passengers on overbooked planes to make extra money. Such riders are called "zaitis," or "tabbies."

Preliminary findings confirmed concerns expressed in the immediate aftermath of the crash over the declining safety of Russian aviation.

The plane was operated by Bel-Air, one of the regional independent airlines formed in 1992 after the breakup of the Soviet state airline.

U.S. Presses Talks On Ukrainian Arms Goal Is Moscow Pact Signing On Nuclear Disarmament

By Ann Devroy
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The United States, Russia and Ukraine have intensified negotiations on the dismantling of Ukraine's nuclear arsenal in the hope that a treaty can be signed in Moscow next week, senior administration officials say.

The White House said Monday that President Bill Clinton had written to President Leonid M. Kravchuk of Ukraine in the last week in what one official called "a re-emphasis of our policy" that the former Soviet republic must dispose of its nuclear missiles in compliance with international agreements.

If such an accord is reached, the president will meet with Mr. Kravchuk in Moscow, a senior administration official said.

Mr. Clinton is to leave Saturday on a nine-day trip that includes a summit meeting in Moscow with President Boris N. Yeltsin and a visit to Belarus, which has relinquished its nuclear arsenal.

The Belarus stop is meant to be both a reward to that nation for its agreement to denuclearize and a signal of U.S. displeasure with Ukraine.

U.S. officials are to hold talks here this week with Ukraine's deputy foreign minister, Valeri Shmarov. A White House official cautioned that "many issues remain to be resolved" and pointed out that the administration has been working on the issue for nearly six months.

When the Soviet Union collapsed, Ukraine inherited about 1,240 nuclear warheads on 176 intercontinental missiles and an estimated 564 warheads on cruise missiles, a small number of which have been dismantled.

A series of three-way talks among the United States, Russia and Ukraine has been held over the last month, in large measure concentrating on how the proceeds from the sale of enriched uranium would be divided between Ukraine and Russia.

"We very much want a deal in time for a signing in Moscow," an official said, "but we can't be driven into a bad deal by summit fever. This is the most serious of business, and there would be no disguising a bad deal. Everyone is working quite hard on this, but we are not there yet, and there is every chance we won't get there."

Administration officials cite as progress the announcement by Russian officials in Kiev last month that Ukraine should be compensated for its tactical nuclear weapons, which were removed more than 18 months ago. Having agreed to the principle of compensation, a senior official said, the issue has become how much and in what form.

Mr. Clinton is scheduled to sign several agreements in Moscow on Jan. 14, including some relating to nonproliferation. That could be expanded into a three-way ceremony.

Kravchuk Presence Likely
Ukrainian officials said Tuesday that Mr. Kravchuk was likely to join the U.S.-Russian summit meeting in Moscow on Jan. 12-15, The Associated Press reported.

President Yeltsin has invited Mr. Kravchuk to participate in the meeting with Mr. Clinton.



Israeli police restraining a flag-waving demonstrator on Tuesday near Jericho. Settlers blocked roads in the region to protest suggestions that their village be included within the PLO-controlled area.

Rabin Rival Drops Vow To Stick to PLO Deal

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — Israel's main opposition leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, said Tuesday that if his Likud party were to return to power he would feel no obligation to honor the present Labor government's agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr. Netanyahu stopped short of a firm promise to break the deal on introducing Palestinian self-rule to the occupied territories — a position advocated recently by his predecessor as Likud leader, former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

But at the same time, Mr. Netanyahu made clear that he would not be bound by the PLO accord, a sharp departure from a public pledge weeks ago to "honor any formal international commitment taken by previous governments."

Speaking to Jewish settlers in the West Bank on Monday and expanding on the subject in an interview Tuesday, he charged that the PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat, had himself broken promises by failing to stop anti-Israeli attacks in the territories and by taking no steps to revoke sections of the PLO charter that call for Israel's destruction.

"Agreements made to be honored, but they're not made to be honored unilaterally," Mr. Netanyahu said. And since in his view the Palestinians have not kept their end of the bargain, then the accord signed on the White House lawn in September is no longer binding on Israel, he said.

His remarks were denounced as "a danger to democracy" by the Labor Party secretary-general, Nissan Zivli. A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin dismissed the comments as "hypothetical," saying that Mr. Netanyahu's opinion has "no significance in the immediate future."

But while for now the opposition may not affect the Israel-PLO negotiations, stalled for nearly a week, its views also cannot be ignored.

The Rabin government has not had an assured parliamentary majority for months, and even though it seems in no danger of imminent collapse, it is also far from a tower of strength. It is entirely possible, opinion polls suggest, that after Israel's next national election in two years, Likud will be back in power and the 44-year-old Mr. Netanyahu will be prime minister.

That would mean he would be taking over at the very moment that Israel and the PLO, under terms of their agreement, are supposed to begin negotiations on the permanent status of the territories. The territories have been held by Israel since 1967, declared by Mr. Netanyahu in the past to be vital to Israeli security.

So what he says, even now, may have consequences for the future course of Israeli-Palestinian relations.

Mr. Netanyahu read the latest polls before speaking out, and they show an appreciable drop in Israeli public support for the September agreement. That decline is reflected also among Palestinians, who are similarly wary of Israel's intentions.

Their suspicions have deepened since the continuing arguments over security issues impelled Israel to miss a Dec. 13 target date for beginning a troop withdrawal.

Yeltsin's Aides Move In to 'Purified' Parliament

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Three months after tanks pounded the Russian White House, an archbishop rechristened the former parliament building on Tuesday and President Boris N. Yeltsin's senior ministers moved into their new offices.

Five thousand workers, including 2,000 Turks, have worked around the clock to repair the bullet-pocked, fire-blackened marble tower at an estimated cost of \$80 million.

The White House is now white

again and resplendent with acres of new carpet, imported elevators, air conditioning and tinted windows. Mr. Yeltsin ordered the repairs begun Oct. 5, the day after he sent tanks and troops to crush hard-line lawmakers and their armed supporters who had rioted against his decree dissolving parliament.

The ceremony Tuesday was a kind of political exorcism: After driving out the hard-line lawmakers, Mr. Yeltsin ordered the building to be purified for his senior aides.

"We have prayed for the Lord's blessing to accompany those who will work here for the good of the Fatherland," Archbishop Arseny of the Russian Orthodox Church said after sprinkling the facade with holy water.

The building was evacuated for a few hours after a bomb alert that turned out to be a hoax.

The White House had become a symbol of opposition to Mr. Yeltsin. He is trying to prevent that from happening again by turning the building into the headquarters

of his cabinet instead of giving it to the newly elected parliament.

The new parliament, which convenes Jan. 11, has been allotted two less prominent buildings in Moscow, despite pleas by some lawmakers for the old site.

Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin has taken over the fifth-floor office of the former parliament speaker, Ruslan I. Khasbulatov, who is in jail awaiting trial for his role in October's uprising.

The only reminder of the hard-

liners is some graffiti aimed at them: "The band of drunkards will not escape a people's trial!" someone has scrawled on a fence outside.

Repairs to the building's six-story rectangular base have been completed, but work is continuing on the 14-story oval tower that rises from the heart of the structure.

Two U.S.-based companies are also involved. Honeywell Inc. has replaced the building's fire-fighting system, and Otis Elevator Co. has installed 19 new elevators.

Christian Geelhaar Dies at 54; Directed Basel's Kunstmuseum

New York Times Service

Christian Geelhaar, 54, a former director of the Basel Kunstmuseum and one of the most respected art historians and curators of his generation, died of AIDS on Friday in Basel.

Mr. Geelhaar, who was born in Bern, was a Picasso scholar and an advocate of postwar American art who was also at home with the art of the Middle Ages and the Northern Renaissance.

He was named curator of modern art at the Basel Kunstmuseum in 1977. In 1980, when he was only 41, he succeeded Franz Meyer as director of the museum. During this period, he gained attention for establishing that Picasso's monumental proto-Cubist still life, "Bread and Fruit Dish on a Table," of 1909 was based on an earlier

study for an unexecuted picture of a banquet scene.

At Basel, Mr. Geelhaar organized or collaborated on exhibitions, including "Jasper Johns: Working Proofs" (1980), "Picasso: Theme Cycles of the Late Work, 1964-72" (1981), "Monet: Les Nymphéas" (1986), "Douglas Cooper and the Cubist Masters" (1987-88) and "Paul Cézanne: The Bathers" (1989).

Lord Porritt, 93, a 1924 Olympic medal winner, a governor-general of New Zealand and surgeon to the British royal family for more than 20 years, died in London on Saturday. He won a bronze medal for

his role in the 1924 Olympics in Paris. The games were the subject of the film "Chariots of Fire," which told the stories of the Scottish runner Eric Liddell, who would not compete on Sundays, and England's Harold Abrahams, who won the gold medal in the race in which Lord Porritt won his bronze.

James Clement, 75, who guided the growth of the King Ranch into a multinational corporation, died Sunday in Kingsville, Texas. The 825,000-acre (about 330,000-hectare) ranch produces cattle, horses and oil.

William Morris, 80, editor in

chief of the first edition of the American Heritage Dictionary in 1969, died Sunday in Columbus, Ohio. Later, he edited the Grolier Universal Encyclopedia and the Encyclopedia International and was editor in chief for Grosset & Dunlap. In 1968, he appeared on the Connecticut ballot as Eugene McCarthy's vice presidential candidate.

Benjamin L. Bosworth, 76, a prisoner of war during World War II who tried to tunnel his way out of Stalag 17 prison, died Sunday in Edwardsville, Illinois. He was severely disciplined for trying to escape. The effort was made into a movie named for the prison camp.

OVERHEARD

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Lyme Disease

Professor's Grant For First Year

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"SINGLE IS GRANTING BRITAIN & ILL TELEFAX

STATESIDE / MEDICAL ALERT

Lyme Disease Risk: Overdiagnosis and Overmedication

By Diana Jean Schemo
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Almost two decades after Lyme disease was first diagnosed in Old Lyme, Connecticut, health experts and officials are warning that overdiagnosis of the disease and complications from long-term antibiotic treatments may pose as great a danger to public health as the disease itself.

In one instance cited by the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 14 children had to have their gallbladders removed, and 22 suffered bloodstream infections, because of complications from long-term treatment with intravenous antibiotics. Though the children's doctor defends their treatment, the centers found no evidence that most of the children even had Lyme disease.

In another case, a New Jersey doctor's license was suspended for "obsessively diagnosing late-stage Lyme disease" in patients lacking clinical evidence of the disease, falsifying records and collecting fees for referring patients to companies that provide intravenous antibiotics in the home. The Board of Medical

Examiners says it is investigating links between other physicians and such companies as well.

The bacteria that causes Lyme disease is carried by deer ticks that bite humans, leading to a bull's-eye rash that enlarges over about two weeks and flu-like symptoms, including fatigue and muscle aches. Diagnosed early, Lyme disease is often remedied by a single course of oral antibiotics. Ignored, it can produce cardiac and neurological problems, including facial paralysis and, more rarely, arthritis or inflammation of the brain or nerves.

Even at this late stage, many doctors stress, the disease can be detected through an examination of spinal fluid and other tests and often can be cured by a month of intravenous antibiotics. This is the generally recommended approach. Most doctors now say, however, that this treatment may fall in rare instances where Lyme disease has infected the central nervous system.

The controversy involves the prolonged use of intravenous antibiotics to treat chronic infections. That use

can cost as much as \$17,000 a month and has been reported to cause life-threatening complications.

Health experts in the New York region say overdiagnosis stems largely from the lack of any simple conclusive test for Lyme disease and the lack of agreement over how frequently the infection persists or recurs.

Another factor, they say, is greed: Some Lyme-disease hot lines refer patients to a network of doctors and clinics that will readily, and often wrongly, diagnose Lyme disease in return for payments from companies that sell in-home treatment.

The bulk of the evidence suggests that Lyme disease is overdiagnosed and that many of those given the diagnosis do not have the disease and will not benefit from antibiotic treatment," concluded a committee of medical experts appointed by the New Jersey Health Department after a report last February on problems at the Jersey Shore Medical Center in Neptune.

While the committee acknowledged that in individual cases, "underdiagnosis can be just as serious a

problem as overdiagnosis," it said the greater number of patients risk hazardous side effects of "antibiotics given for a disease they do not have."

The issue has become public and political. On one side are patient advocates, drug companies and a small number of practicing doctors who favor long-term antibiotic treatment for chronic infections. On the other are physicians and research scientists, together with insurance companies that generally stop paying for intravenous antibiotics after 28 days; all point out the absence of any published research to justify the risks of such treatments.

In 1992, 9,877 cases of Lyme were reported to the Centers for Disease Control, mostly in East Coast states north of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Allen C. Steere of Tufts University, who first identified Lyme disease in 1975, wrote recently that more than three-quarters of the patients referred to his Lyme Disease Clinic at the New England Medical Center and the majority of 100 patients at a New Jersey Lyme referral center were misdiagnosed and given unnecessary antibiotics.

Professors Grade Clinton a B For First Year of Economics

By Steven Pearlstein
Washington Post Service

BOSTON — Mark him down for a solid B for his freshman year.

The nation's economics professors, meeting here between semesters, gave President Bill Clinton high marks for his handling of economic policy in his first year in office.

"The administration's performance was not only surprisingly positive, it was also very good," Rudiger Dornbusch of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology told the American Economic Association on Monday.

"A good spring semester," declared the Nobel laureate Lawrence R. Klein of the University of Pennsylvania. He said the administration deserved at least half the credit for the drop in interest rates over the past year and two consecutive years of reduced U.S. budget deficits.

Mr. Clinton's lowest mark came from Martin S. Feldstein of Harvard, who served as chairman of President Ronald Reagan's Council of Economic Advisors.

He predicted that Mr. Clinton would realize no more than half of the \$500 billion in deficit reduction that has been projected for the next five years. The tax increases on the wealthy, he said, will discourage them from earning and investing and yield little in additional revenue for the Treasury.

Mr. Feldstein, known for his staunch defense of free markets, conceded that he was in the somewhat awkward position of arguing that the stock and bond markets were wrong in having responded as positively

as they did to the passage of the Clinton economic plan.

He drew a sharp rebuke from administration and academic economists for his assertion that a 6.1 percent unemployment rate is as close as the nation can come to full employment without causing a dangerous new round of inflation.

"We definitely don't accept that," replied Alan S. Blinder, a member of the Council of Economic Advisors. He said the unemployment rate could descend comfortably to 5.5 percent without igniting inflation.

U.S. officials already have signaled that they believe interest rates should remain where they are for the foreseeable future.

A broad array of economists gave Mr. Clinton high marks for intelligence and good intentions.

"He has lent a coherence to economic discourse that we haven't seen in a long time," said Stephen Cullenberg of the University of California at Riverside.

Christine Doyle-Burke of Framingham State College in Massachusetts gave the president a B+ for his recognition of the widening gap between rich and poor, but like many at the session, expressed disappointment that he has not been able to do more about it.

"He can take some credit for raising the confidence of the business world and consumers," said Dimitri Papadimitriou of Bard College in New York. "But I would have liked to see more in the area of education, training and investment in physical infrastructure."

In general, Mr. Clinton got his highest marks in trade and international economic issues.



POINTED PROTEST — Rusty Morgan wore this custom-made headpiece when he joined other motorcyclists at a Sacramento rally to protest a California law requiring helmets on bikers.

Away From Politics

• Gary, Indiana, is now the murder capital of the United States. There were 110 murders in Gary last year, which represented a nationwide high of 91 per 100,000 residents.

• The New York City Board of Education has tentatively decided to carry out a court's wishes and give parents the right to decide whether their children receive condoms in a program aimed to prevent AIDS.

• Makers of violent video games are moving quickly to mollify parents alarmed by their children's playing with vampires and homicidal warriors on TV. Under growing pressure from Congress to

start a rating system, they are meeting in Las Vegas. The meeting occurs after a threat by lawmakers to impose ratings.

• A federal judge in New York said he expected that the trial of Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman and 14 others charged with plotting to bomb New York City landmarks will be delayed until September.

• Dr. Jack Kevorkian was charged in Michigan in the death of a doctor who had bone cancer. It is the fourth time he has been charged with violating the Michigan ban on assisted suicide. He is under house arrest in another assisted suicide case.

Reuters, NYT, AP

POLITICAL NOTES

Bentzen Seeks to Cull Phony Gun Dealers

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentzen has proposed laws under which gun dealers would pay \$600 a year for firearms licenses, to discourage all but legitimate businesses from obtaining the permits.

The annual fee now is \$10 and is rising to \$65 under recently passed legislation, but Mr. Bentzen said the new fee "isn't just ridiculous" but "goes all the way to reckless."

The increase he is proposing, Mr. Bentzen said, is needed because "many people get licenses not to sell firearms but to buy them cheap for themselves."

"We have over 200 million guns," he said. "Every 10 seconds a gun rolls off an assembly line. Every 11 seconds we import a gun."

The higher fee, he said, "should eliminate 200,000 dealers, leaving only the actual ones in place."

"And it will end the de facto taxpayer subsidizing of the gun business."

Mr. Bentzen, who spoke after a law-enforcement awards ceremony, said the Clinton administration also would propose legislation to require a federal permit for people who buy dynamite and other explosives, such as those used in a series of bombings last week in western New York.

The proposal also would make theft of explosives a federal felony, Mr. Bentzen said. He unveiled the proposals as part of a broad administration effort to strengthen federal regulation of firearms.

U.S. Rolls Out Playful TV Ads for Condoms

WASHINGTON — With a playful 30-second ad, the Clinton administration launched a new, would-be hip television advertising campaign Tuesday to encourage young Americans to protect themselves against AIDS.

In it, a couple gropes between the sheets on a disheveled bed. Suddenly a door drawer springs open and to James Bond-type music, out pops a foil-wrapped condom. It skitters across the floor, past a startled cat and discreetly dives into action on the bed.

"It would be nice if latex condoms were automatic," an announcer intones. "But since they're not, using them should be."

All four U.S. broadcast television networks and many cable TV outlets and radio stations have agreed to run the ads, produced for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That represents a change from previous network policies that treated ads mentioning condoms and AIDS warily.

(AP)

Lawmaker, Retiring, Urges Old-Timers to Go

WASHINGTON — After 17 years in Congress, Representative Douglas Applegate, 65, Democrat of Ohio, says he is ready to retire and recommends that other old-timers do the same. "It is time for younger people to take the reins of government and lead us into the next century," he said. "I would further suggest that other older members of Congress consider this, as well."

Two other colleagues agreed with him. Representative Thomas E. Lewis, 69, a Florida Republican who has served 11 years in the House, said he also would not seek re-election in November.

And Representative Alfred A. McCandless, Republican of California, said Tuesday that he would retire at year's end after 12 years in the House. "What I have not had," he said, "is a Friday or Monday without an airplane in it; a leisurely breakfast; dinner at the dinner hour; little R&R time, or even much time with my family."

The three retirements brought to 26 the number of House members who have announced that will leave after the current term. Fourteen of those leaving are Republicans.

(AP)

For Packwood, It's Three Questions and Out

BEAVERTON, Oregon — Making his first public appearance in his home state in five months, Senator Bob Packwood stalked out of a news conference after just three questions.

"See you later, folks," he said Monday after being asked once if he planned to resign and twice about where he lives.

Aides had tried to limit the questions to health care at the news conference, held after Mr. Packwood addressed a luncheon on health care reform.

"The first three questions weren't germane, so he's out of here," a Packwood aide said.

Mr. Packwood, 61, a Republican who lives in Washington, last year sold the trailer home that was his Oregon residence. He would have to establish a legal residence to run for a sixth term in 1998.

The Senate Select Committee on Ethics is investigating allegations by more than two dozen women that Mr. Packwood made unwanted sexual advances over the years. The committee and the Justice Department also are investigating whether Mr. Packwood used his office to try to arrange jobs for his wife. His diaries are in the custody of a federal court while he fights subpoenas for them.

Mr. Packwood has denied breaking any laws and said he has no intention of resigning.

(AP)

Quote / Unquote

Dennis Archer, newly sworn in as mayor of Detroit: "Get a grip on your life, and the lives of your children. Stand with me when I tell the Dope Man: Get off our streets. Stand with me when I tell the Dope Man: Leave our children alone."

Tom Murphy, the new mayor of Pittsburgh: "These are our kids, both the ones being shot and the ones doing the shooting. Get out of your comfortable lives and get into the lives of these kids."

(AP)

Doubts on Radiation Inquiry CIA Destroyed Files on Its Tests, Expert Says

WASHINGTON — The public may never get the full story of secret government radiation testing on Americans during the Cold War, because the Central Intelligence Agency destroyed many of its files, a scientist said Tuesday.

Steven Aftergood, a senior researcher with the Federation of American Scientists, a private group, said the CIA in 1973 destroyed many files on radiation tests that it secretly conducted on people from 1953 to 1967.

"If the CIA has destroyed its records of this activity, then we will never get to the bottom of this story," Mr. Aftergood said.

The CIA said Tuesday that it had begun a search of its records. A spokesman, David Christian, said, "We're searching our files for material relevant to the attempt to get to the bottom of the radiation testing issue."

In another development, the chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources urged President Bill Clinton to release information on how U.S. nuclear weapons tests may have affected residents of the Marshall Islands.

Representative George Miller, a California Democrat, said in a letter to Mr. Clinton that of particular concern was the March 1, 1954, test on Bikini Atoll. The test had a high yield, and radioactive fallout was blown over a wide area, including the inhabited Marshall Islands atolls of Rongerik and Ujae.

A commission led by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller reported in 1975 that the CIA had conducted radiation tests as part of a much larger CIA program to study possible means of controlling human behavior.

Many of the records of these experiments, at least those involving unwitting subjects of drug test-

ing, were ordered destroyed in 1973, the Rockefeller Commission reported.

Mr. Christian said the CIA would take part "as fully as appropriate" in an inter-agency task force set up Monday to uncover details of experiments carried out in the decades after World War II.

Besides studying the effects of hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD, the CIA explored "the effects of radiation, electric shock, psychology, psychiatry, sociology and harassment substances," the Rockefeller Commission reported.

The commission's report is not clear on which CIA files were destroyed. It says: "Unfortunately, only limited records of the testing conducted in these drug programs are now available. All the records concerning the program were ordered destroyed in 1973, including a total of 152 separate files."

Scandal Rattles Brazil's Voters Congressmen Suspected in Thefts of Millions

By James Brooke
New York Times Service

RIO DE JANEIRO — Jobo Alves would like you to believe that he is the world's luckiest man.

To explain how he came to deposit \$51 million in his bank accounts since 1989, the congressman, whose annual salary is \$84,000, told investigators recently that the answer was simple. He had won 24,000 lotteries.

One year after a multimillion-dollar corruption scandal forced Brazil's president from office, an enormous new scandal involving dozens of members of Congress is shaking many Brazilians' faith in democracy.

"And although Brazilians have grown cynical and resigned to stories about corruption, the latest disclosures have shocked people because of the extraordinary scale and brazenness."

The disillusionment with the political system has become so rampant that the army, which gave up rule to civilians in 1965, emerged from hibernation recently and bluntly warned Congress to purge itself, last.

"Beware the anger of the legions," said General Benedito Osorio Bezerra Leão, the chief of staff, echoing widespread anger

among Brazilians in and out of uniform. "In moments of turbulence, military leaders have always proved to be strong leaders."

"No one fears a possible coup returning Brazil to military rule, but General Leão's comments represented an extraordinary attempt to influence events after several years in which the army has been aloof from politics."

Facing the anger, Brazilians struggle under inflation of 2,500 percent a year while they read that members of Congress apparently pocketed \$200 million in federal grants to charities.

In this atmosphere, many Brazilians are openly nostalgic for the low inflation and high growth in the years of military rule, from 1964 to 1985. Half of those responding to polls routinely say Brazil does not need its Congress.

Signaling an intention to clean house, Congress voted Dec. 15 to expel three members for involvement in an unrelated corruption scandal. And on Dec. 27, a subcommittee studying the theft of charity subsidies recommended the expulsion of seven others.

Many analysts here believe the military does not intend to return to power. Instead, they say, it is judging Congress to improve civil

Floridian Saves Best for Last: \$15.7 Million

The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Florida — A Tallahassee woman won \$15.7 million in the lottery on Sept. 4 — then waited until Christmas to tell anyone.

After all the other presents were opened, Johnnie Mosley gave her husband, Charles, a folder and told him, "This is the best I can do."

Inside was a copy of the Florida lottery ticket and newspaper clippings detailing a four-month search for the winner.

"My dad thought it was a joke at first," said the Mosleys' 15-year-old son, Mike. "But when my mom told him it wasn't — we all started crying."

The Mosleys will receive \$789,000 a year for 20 years.

called her "Brazil's wealthiest maid."

To make his fortune appear legitimate to Brazilian tax authorities, Mr. Alves bet heavily on lotteries, investigators said.

According to a study by the Federal Savings Bank, he bet \$29 million and won \$9 million, which he deposited as laundered money.

U.S. Was Slow to Act on Warning Of Turbulence From Boeing 757

Los Angeles Times Service

SANTA ANA, California — The Federal Aviation Administration had evidence dating as far back as October 1991 that Boeing 757s cause unusually dangerous wake turbulence, but the agency issued no public warning until last month.

After the deaths of 13 people in two plane crashes, which are believed to have been linked to the phenomenon.

Wake turbulence occurs when a large plane slices through the air, leaving a trail of horizontal cyclones that spring out from each wing tip.

The aviation agency has said it was not until early last year that it learned of the problem.

But documents obtained by the Los Angeles Times indicate that it was aware of the problem long before the agency's administrator, David Hinson, issued a nationwide directive Dec. 23 that air traffic

Diet-Cancer Link For Nonsmokers

Reuters

WASHINGTON — A diet rich in raw fruit, vegetables, cheese and Vitamin E can reduce the risk of lung cancer for nonsmokers, according to a study to be made public on Wednesday.

Scientists have known that smokers can benefit from such a diet, but a new study reported in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute makes a connection for those who do not smoke.

Raw fruit and vegetables are good sources of beta carotene, which has been associated with a reduced lung cancer risk in smokers, the study said. Vitamin E supplements are also effective in cutting risk, the study found.

Of 826 subjects in the study, 44 percent had never smoked and 56 percent quit smoking 10 years or more before being studied.

The reporting system is run by the U.S. space agency.

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A Gap to Bridge in Mexico

Tale of Two Mexicos

There is another, older Mexico beneath the free market, modernizing society being fashioned by President Carlos Salinas de Gortari — a Mexico of subsistence agriculture, native peoples and Emiliano Zapata, the land-to-the-peasants hero of the 1910-1917 Mexican Revolution. That other Mexico is epitomized by Chiapas, the poor southern state on the Guatemalan border where armed Indian guerrillas invoking Zapata took over four towns on Saturday and where clashes between Mexico's army and the rebels have left scores of Indians dead. Reports are sketchy, but most guerrilla fatalities appear to have been inflicted while the rebels were retreating.

The Chiapas uprising was timed to coincide with the formal start of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Like other peasants toiling on the fringes of Mexico's capitalist economy, many Indians living in the jungles of Chiapas feel left out of the economic gains of recent years and fear the free market, free trade future that NAFTA symbolizes. Free trade future that NAFTA symbolizes. Free trade future that NAFTA symbolizes.

An Inquiry Is in Order

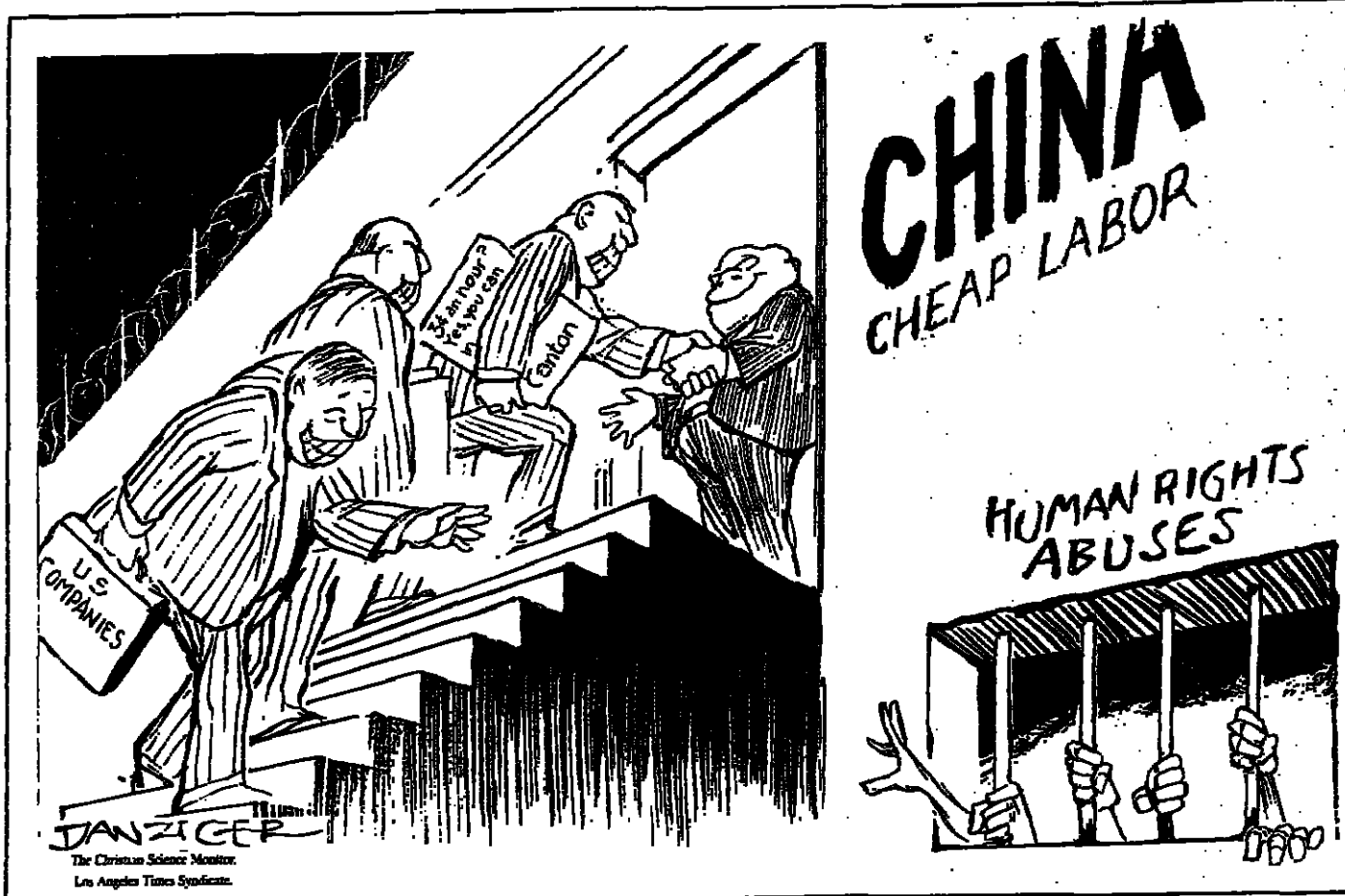
Like a mural come down off a wall, a peasant "revolution" burst forth in the poorest and most southerly part of Mexico over the New Year weekend. Some hundreds of armed men and women eluded preemption by Mexico's vaunted intelligence and showed themselves organized enough to briefly capture a good-sized city, San Cristobal de las Casas, in Chiapas. After two days of fighting, in which dozens were killed on both sides, rebels still held three towns. Ostensibly, the uprising was timed to the effective date of the new trade agreement with Washington. The rebels reject the government's depiction of the North American Free Trade Agreement as a patriotic act of economic growth, terming it a class conspiracy against the landless and poor. This is the first major uprising in Mexico in 20 years, and as such an embarrassment for President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. But a certain level of unrest is familiar to Chiapas and other states isolated from the modernizing currents that Mr. Salinas, more than any other Mexican leader, has encouraged. Conspiracy theories flourish in Mexico. In this instance, some suggest that there has been an infection from local radicals or from guerrillas across the border in Guatemala. It is asked

force, and compassion for Mexicans more interested in holding onto a traditional way of life than in fast-track capitalist development.

It is the legacy of 1910 — nationalism, protectionism and legal restrictions on large landholdings — that Mr. Salinas has spent his presidency dismantling. His textbook economic reforms should make it easier for Mexico to compete for the capital it needs to develop. Over time, that could significantly lift living standards in all regions of Mexico for people of all ethnic backgrounds.

But this Mexican revolution is being imposed from above. Too many Mexican citizens remain alienated from local governments that owe more to patronage than to a habitually tested electoral process, and fearful of corrupt and violent police and military officials. If Mexico is to take its place among the democracies of North America, the gap between economics and politics — and between the two Mexicos — urgently needs to be bridged.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.



Bosnia's Holocaust Puts the Churches to Shame

By Henry Siegman

NEW YORK — Pope John Paul II's Christmas message, in which he expressed compassion for "the suffering peoples of Bosnia-Herzegovina," was surely heartfelt, but it reminds us of the fecklessness and irrelevance of Western religious institutions — Catholic, Protestant and Jewish — in the face of the modern Holocaust that is taking place in the heart of Europe.

Given the impotence of religious institutions as the agency of Bosnia continues, how pathetic their

Anything short of a demand by the churches for military intervention is cant and hypocrisy.

pretensions that they serve as unique agents for peace. Surely, in Bosnia they have done nothing of the kind. If anything, religious sentiment has fueled the genocide that is taking place there.

The ambivalence and consequent impotence of the churches is perhaps understandable. Despite Catholic doctrine on "just wars," our churches find it virtually impossible to advocate the use of force. Tragically, there are times when the only resort to violence can be the slaughter of innocents.

That was true in World War II, and it is true today in Bosnia. Only the use of air power to silence

Serbian guns and a lifting of the arms embargo — which has punished only victims, not aggressors — could possibly end the one-sided slaughter.

Because religious institutions have failed to call for such military intervention, they have allowed evil to have its way. What is worse, too often their pious declarations have failed to distinguish between the victims and their tormentors. That failure nourishes a perverse moral equivalence that is invoked by governments to justify inaction and cowardice.

I write these lines in sadness, not to point an accusing finger. Haunted by the memory of the Holocaust, Jewish organizations have spoken out on Bosnia more forcefully than have others, but their pronouncements and public hand-wringing mean little. Religious institutions in the United States have not undertaken the kind of political action to which they resort so effectively when their own core interests are challenged — whether tax exemptions for churches and synagogues, opposition to abortion, or aid for Israel.

I have no doubt that the use of the term "Holocaust" to describe the human destruction in Bosnia will provoke bitter criticism in some quarters. One would think that the deliberate slaughter of nearly a quarter of a million men, women and children, and the prospect of more than 2 million people

dying this winter (the U.S. State Department says that nearly 3 million Bosnians are at risk), might qualify as a Holocaust. How sad that some still get more exercised about notions of semantic correctness than about genocidal destruction of life.

The Holocaust in Bosnia will end only if the international community — and that effectively means the United States — finally uses air power to destroy Serbian artillery and also ends the arms embargo against Bosnia. Unfortunately, political leadership in Washington is utterly bankrupt on the subject of Bosnia; so that will not happen unless the American people call for such intervention. That they have not done so despite their exposure to graphic depictions of daily slaughter, atrocities and starvation is a measure of the failure of religious institutions. Anything short of a demand by them for military intervention is cant and hypocrisy.

Religious institutions hardly covered themselves with glory during World War II, when the first Holocaust occurred. If they continue their fecklessness and faithlessness as Serbs and Croats, with the apparent sanction of local Serbian Orthodox and Croatian Catholic churches, go about completing their genocidal work in Bosnia, they will have compromised themselves beyond redemption.

The writer is executive director of the American Jewish Congress. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Ukraine's Go-Slow Leaders Hurt Their Own Cause

By Sam Nunn

The writer is chairman of the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. Senate.

WASHINGTON — Just 29 months ago Ukraine declared independence from a disintegrating Soviet Union. Support for independence was strong even among Russians living in Ukraine, who comprise almost a quarter of the country's 52 million people. With a vast territory, rich in minerals, fertile soil, heavy industry and human talent, Ukraine in 1991 seemed destined for at least as rosy a future as did Russia, which for almost 350 years had ruled it.

In a highly prudent act, Ukraine in 1991 also agreed, via a legally binding protocol to the START-I treaty, to give up all nuclear weapons on its territory by "withdrawing in the shortest possible time" to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear state. There was talk, as well, of reducing Ukraine's dependence upon power provided by the dozen or so unmodernized and dangerous Chernobyl-type nuclear reactors operating in the country.

Today, Ukraine's economy is in freefall, its currency rendered virtually worthless by runaway inflation. Production has all but collapsed, and energy shortages have become increasingly acute during a bitter winter. This reflects Russia's require-

ment that its oil exports be paid for in hard currency at close to world market prices. The constraints on oil as an energy source have in turn placed extraordinary demands on those old Chernobyl-type nuclear reactors.

Political, ethnic and religious divisions within Ukraine are deepening. Ukrainian nationalism is strongest in the predominantly Catholic west. Pro-Russian sentiments are stronger in the industrialized, Orthodox east, and these sentiments are intensifying as the Ukrainian president, Leonid Kravchuk, and especially the Ukrainian parliament — has added to the already formidable difficulties of providing help from the outside. The Ukrainian government has pursued shortsighted policies that have brought the country to the verge of economic and political collapse. In so doing, Ukraine risks playing into the hands of precisely those reactionary elements in Russia, including Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, that have never accepted Ukrainian independence.

Additionally, by repeatedly saying that it will give up all its nuclear weapons but never quite doing so, and by attaching unrealistic conditions to compliance with its arms control obligations (for example, the United States has offered Ukraine \$176 million to assist with weapons dismantling; Ukraine insists it must have billions), the Ukrainian government is losing international credibility.

Under U.S. law, Ukraine will not be able to receive the promised assistance unless President Bill Clinton can certify that it remains committed to fulfilling all of its arms control obligations. This certification will not be possible unless the recent actions of the Ukrainian parliament are corrected by President Kravchuk and the new parliament. Retention of nuclear weapons jeopardizes rather than enhances Ukraine's security. It provides the one power that could directly or indirectly destroy Ukraine, creates a serious safety problem, undermines arms control and nonproliferation, and dissolves trust from the West. It is in Ukraine's interests, as well as in the best interests of the world community, to resolve this matter speedily.

The Ukraine administration has proposed that strategic nuclear weapons in Ukraine be deactivated by removing their warheads. The warheads would then be transported to Russia for disassembly. Ukraine would monitor the process and receive an equitable share of the valuable uranium taken from the warheads, either in the form of reprocessed civilian reactor fuel or hard currency. As part of this plan, the United States will purchase warhead uranium from Russia for reprocessing and sale for eventual use in U.S. civilian reactors.

This proposal, imaginatively conceived by the United States, is an excellent example of how America can play a vital role in moderating tensions between Ukraine and Russia. The main burden for defusing Ukrainian-Russian tensions, however, lies with those two countries.

Beyond the critical issue of nuclear weapons, it is imperative that those in

Ukraine responsible for their country's decline grasp the real dangers of the road they have taken. It is no less imperative that those in Russia responsible for territorial claims and political pressure on Ukraine realize that their behavior contributes to dangerous tensions in Ukrainian-Russian relations and to the current crisis in Ukraine. The United States and its allies must speak clearly and frankly to decision-makers in both countries.

For Ukraine, the message to those responsible for current policy should be: Your sovereignty is at stake and your prospects for survival as a nation are diminishing; you can dig your own grave as a nation by refusing to undertake the kind of economic and political reforms necessary to attract Western investment and revive your economy; you cannot expect economic assistance from the West unless you begin to make the hard economic policy choices that other former Communist countries are making; and finally, Ukraine's standing as a responsible member of the international community requires you to live up to your country's solemn pledge to be rid of all nuclear weapons.

The message to those in Russia advocating a hard line toward Ukraine: Your expressed claims to the Crimean portion of Ukraine and your military doctrine that reserves the right of intervention in former Soviet republics understandably have agitated Ukraine; while you have every right to obtain world market prices for your oil, it is not in your interests to bring Ukraine to its knees; if civil strife erupts in Ukraine and you choose to intervene militarily, you must understand that the consequences could bring a devastating setback to your own economy, to Western economic cooperation, and ultimately to prospects for democratization in Russia; and finally, any changes in the Ukrainian-Russian border must be undertaken only in accord with recognized norms of international law and only with the consent of those populations affected by such changes.

The Washington Post.

The New York Times.

Each traveler to a tyranny sees what his own ethics permit him to see. Planeloads of Westerners arrive in China, see what their self-interest or mind-set permit — quality control but not police control, more computers but not more kangaroo trials. They return home announcing that they have seen the future and it works. They expound their theory that eventually economic progress, even at slave wages, must bring human betterment and human rights. Thus they carve their names for history on a list that includes John Reed, Walter Durranty, Joe Kennedy, Charles Lindbergh.

But by now the offense of self-binding is even greater. What excuse can be presented to history now that Nazi Germany, the Soviet empire and Imperial Japan have proved the theory one of history's great lies?

Ethically and politically, the decision on China will be one of the more important that Mr. Clinton will make. The president's name should not be on that indecipherable list, nor America's.

The Washington Post.

The New York Times.

Beijing '94 Evokes Berlin '38

By A. M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK — On Oct. 27, 1938, Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter wrote a letter to President Franklin Roosevelt about Joseph Kennedy, then ambassador to Britain. Mr. Kennedy had been using his post to fight publicly for the appeasement of Adolf Hitler. He used the word proudly. He said the West could do fine business with Hitler, and in peace. Only economics counted, he said. — trade, finance, deals — not how the Nazis chose to rule.

Justice Frankfurter wrote: "I wonder if Joe Kennedy understands the implication of public talk by an American ambassador. Such public approval of dictatorships, in part even, plays into their hands."

Hitler was already moving to conquer Europe. The Joe Kennedys played their part by looking in their mirrors and crying out that only money mattered. Dictators can always be bought off by cash and credits, they said.

Berlin, Yalta, Baghdad, now Beijing. I read the Frankfurter letter, in Nigel Hamilton's book "J.F.K.: Reckless Youth," the day after an interview with J. Stapleton Roy, U.S. ambassador to Beijing, appeared in The New York Times.

At the moment, the issue between China and the United States is not one of conquest. Well, almost of course. But that was decades ago, and sometimes the Dalai Lama gets tea in Washington.

All that is being asked of China is to treat its own citizens and Tibetans with somewhat more decency — say, to refrain from torturing them in prison, rounding them up for labor, enforcing abortion, arresting dissidents, human rights kind of thing.

In the interview with The New York Times in Beijing, Mr. Roy concedes that repression is the normal governing method of maintaining control in China. He also says that there were human rights "setbacks" in China in 1993. But he comes to the conclusion that because China is moving ahead economically, the lives of its citizens have dramatically improved, and that this should be taken into account when Bill Clinton has to make a major decision this summer. The decision is whether to use the only lever the United States has to improve human rights in China — import tariff rates.

One major reason why China has moved ahead economically is that by government regulations Chinese workers are paid so little that labor hardly counts in its international trade balance sheet. For Beijing, rising American tariffs could be such unpleasant medicine that it might decide to loosen up a little on human rights. Maybe not — but it is the only threat the United States has.

Last year, to ward off a powerful congressional move to remove the present Chinese privilege of getting lowest available U.S. tariffs, Mr. Clinton issued an executive order. It bound him to remove that privilege by July 1994 unless he is convinced that significant human rights progress has taken place. Mr. Clinton's ambassador in Beijing plainly believes that President Clinton's decision that such progress has been made, despite those "setbacks" and that continued rule by repression.

Mr. Roy is not Joe Kennedy. He does not shoot his mouth off no matter what Washington happens to think, and he stands well in the State Department. That makes it important for the administration to assure Congress publicly that the game is not already fixed against removal of China's lowest tariff privileges.

Each traveler to a tyranny sees what his own ethics permit him to see. Planeloads of Westerners arrive in China, see what their self-interest or mind-set permit — quality control but not police control, more computers but not more kangaroo trials. They return home announcing that they have seen the future and it works. They expound their theory that eventually economic progress, even at slave wages, must bring human betterment and human rights. Thus they carve their names for history on a list that includes John Reed, Walter Durranty, Joe Kennedy, Charles Lindbergh.

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Ethically and politically, the decision on China will be one of the more important that Mr. Clinton will make. The president's name should not be on that indecipherable list, nor America's.

The Washington Post.

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: Matabele Defeat

CAPETOWN — The Imperial troops, under Colonel Goud-Adams, still remain encamped in the neighborhood of Bulawayo. Mr. Selous considers it probable that Lobengula may collect a small following around Panda and migrate across the Zambesi after the rainy season. In any case he regards as certain that the Matabele King will never attack the whites again.

1919: German Mistake

ROME — At the Capitol today [Jan. 4], in the presence of the King and Queen, members of the Cabinet and the Diplomatic Corps, President Wilson said in part: "I have thought in these last days of the colossal mistake which was being committed: the mistake of force committed by the Central Empires. If Germany had waited only a single generation she would have possessed the commercial empire of the world. She tried to con-

1944: Victory Isn't Close

WASHINGTON — [From our New York edition:] The Office of War Information issued its own appraisal today [Jan. 4] of the progress made in the war and the magnitude of the task ahead, based on information supplied by the War and Navy Departments and the Army Air Forces. Posing the question "How far has our side gone towards winning this war?" the O.W.I. answered, in effect, "Not very far." One of the points in the report states that the German Army is still powerful and resourceful, and its morale is high; German war production is still high despite Allied bombings, and there is no evidence that the Nazi home front is cracking.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unappreciated Turkey

Regarding "Turkey's Role in the Balkans," by John J. Mears, Jan. 3, 1994, p. 10: Turkey's role in the Balkans is often overlooked. Turkey has been a major force for stability in the region since the end of World War II. Its military intervention in Cyprus in 1974 and its support for the Greek Cypriot government were crucial in preventing a complete takeover of the island by the Turkish Cypriots. Turkey's support for the Greek Cypriot government was crucial in preventing a complete takeover of the island by the Turkish Cypriots. Turkey's support for the Greek Cypriot government was crucial in preventing a complete takeover of the island by the Turkish Cypriots.

Rules of the Game

Regarding "Toward a New Balance of Power," by John J. Mears, Jan. 3, 1994, p. 10: The world is moving toward a new balance of power. The United States is no longer the sole superpower. The Soviet Union has collapsed. China is rising. India is rising. Brazil is rising. The world is moving toward a new balance of power. The United States is no longer the sole superpower. The Soviet Union has collapsed. China is rising. India is rising. Brazil is rising. The world is moving toward a new balance of power.



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OPINION

Global Culture: The Paradox of U.S. Dominance

By David Rieff

This is the first of two articles.

NEW YORK — "A civilization progresses from agriculture to paradox," the Romanian aphorist E. M. Cioran once wrote. It is not a conviction that sits particularly well with Americans, who tend to shy away from contradictions and, instead, continue to believe that solutions exist for every problem.

And yet, a dual paradox informs the American situation following the Cold War. The first part concerns how a country by tradition and disposition more self-absorbed than most became the animating spirit of the global culture that more and more predominates from Guangdong to Berlin. The second offers the spectacle of a nation whose official ideology is increasingly the "celebration" of diversity, while it remains culturally, although not racially, astonishingly homogeneous, not to say conformist, in its attitudes.

All you Americans talk and talk about is diversity," a French intellectual exclaimed in exasperation at the end of an American Studies conference held in Paris last year. "So what I want to know is how it is that you all sound the same?"

A candid observer might have responded by taking the Frenchman's question a step further and insisting that the genius of the multiculturalist movement was its ability to appear radical while not in fact threatening the status quo — in much the way that the trend in industrial production toward mass customization gives consumers the impression of being able to get a product designed expressly for them, in fact, technological advances permit an almost infinite segmentation of the consumer base.

In a sense, this process of segmentation, whether expressed in the fracturing of "high culture" or the proliferation of television channels, or in the multiplication of affinity groups in which people define themselves in terms of being subject to some behavioral pathology, is less the feature of a traditional nation-state than of a world. If one thinks of the United States as having become a universe at least as much as it remains a country, divisions within it make more sense. All empires, even of the peculiar Ameri-

can kind, eventually become "world nations," in Walt Whitman's celebrated phrase. If only because this experience of selling to such a monolithically consumerist but segmented public has been the defining experience of American capitalism for so long, it should come as no surprise that the global consumer culture — particularly in the realm of movies, music and food — has remained almost an American monopoly in a time when U.S. hegemony in other industries has been shattered.

No wonder so many Americans remain so confident that their parochial concerns and

America's cultural domination has intensified even as its power in other domains has waned.

self-definitions are shared by everyone. With some real exceptions (for example, the Indian film industry within India) it is Hollywood, the American music industry and American food chains that predominate.

The Europeans, the French in particular, are identified by this. French politicians, cultural impresarios and performers tend to talk about what is produced in New York and Los Angeles in rather the same tones as environmentalists talk about the Amazon — as an unstoppable force that will destroy all in its path unless confronted by force.

To them, the situation is clear. If Europe does not resist this American cultural invasion, as a French official remarked to the weekly L'Express, "there will soon develop a standardized world culture created according to American norms."

There are those who dismiss such fears, believing them to be overstated or insisting

that America's preeminence in mass culture will inevitably go the way of its dominance in other industries. According to the latter model, cultural power moves with financial power. When Holland was at its apogee, Dutch styles in home furnishings were imitated all over the world. But, this argument runs, when Holland declined, the world turned to other models.

To some degree, the recent rise of Germany and Japan confirms that such processes still occur. Few countries that become powerful do not succeed (Germany is the obvious exception here) in imposing their national crises on the rest of the bourgeois world or influencing high fashion.

But successfully imposing a taste for sushi or fit Sander linen jackets is not the same thing as engineering a global mass culture as the United States has done in the 20th century. It is all the more surprising, then, that the American domination of mass culture has only intensified in a period when American power in other domains has waned. And yet the fact remains that now, American mass culture is everywhere triumphant.

In many instances, the financing for, say, a Hollywood studio will come from overseas, and it is commonplace that the people producing this "American" culture are often imported, like National Hockey League players, from overseas. But such diverse fads as bungee jumping and cigarette smoking, although they did not originate in the United States, seem to have gained worldwide acceptance through their commodification — another way of describing their Americanization.

Jules Verne was interested in dinosaurs, but no French movie company could possibly have produced "Jurassic Park." In this, as in any number of other instances, cultural nationalists like the French political class are right to be fearful.

The class character of the objection is worth noting. What is probably most distinctive about American popular culture is its resolutely popular character. As not only the prestige but the economic significance of high culture wanes (and opera, symphony orchestras and museums increasingly can

survive only through state subsidy or private philanthropy), it becomes more and more irrelevant to our common cultural future. And in an era of high culture's eclipse, the market can reassess itself.

All things being equal, Wal-Mart is a better investment than Gucci, just as Bruce Springsteen is more valuable as a cultural commodity (both in the literal sense of return on investment and in terms of the numbers of people throughout the world who are affected by him) than even such desperate popularizers as Luciano Pavarotti. There are exceptions, of course. Very poor countries have succeeded in preserving their cultural authenticity. It can even be argued that the constant flows of immigrants from South to North, and, in the European case, perhaps increasingly from East to West, will function as cultural "reinforcements" from home, both linguistically and in terms of mores, and will serve as an undercurrent to the general tidal pull toward homogenization.

But all of this only underscores something that the history of consumerism, like the history of sentiments, proceeds unevenly in different classes and in different parts of the world. The general direction in the world is toward greater similarity. This process of homogenization is as yet incomplete.

But compared with the genuinely diverse world of half a century ago, things have proceeded rapidly. One can now travel the entire world and never be very far from a Coke, a Big Mac or the sound of some American entertainer. There are video rental stores in villages in India where most dwellings still have no electricity. And in Bedouin camps in the Sinai and Zulu kraals in the Transvaal, I have had as many conversations about Bruce Willis and Arnold Schwarzenegger as I have about Allah or King Cetswayo.

The writer is author most recently of "The Exile: Cuba at the Heart of Miami." This article was adapted by The Washington Post from a longer version that appears in the current issue of the World Policy Journal.

Whose Voice (What's Voice) Is It?

By William Safire

HARPERS FERRY, West Virginia — The technicians have found a way to bring back the musical past. Memorable performances have been "digitally remastered" and sound better than they ever did before.

I buy the compact discs of Peggy Lee, Dick Haymes, Rosemary Clooney, dub them to a tape — it

MEANWHILE

is legal — and play "Sunny Side of the Street," "I Surrender, Dear," "Come On-a My House" while driving to work in my Volkswagen.

These popular performances bring on a rush of nostalgia, admittedly a sloppy sentiment, but it does my soul good to stir memories of sitting in the 107th Street studio of WNET when the producer Alan Handley, my brother

Len, and the piano player Johnny Andrews pioneered musical television with young Dinah Shore.

That is how '50s technology has delivered for me. The new CD sound of Frank Sinatra "in the wee small hours" of the '60s is richer, clearer and more moving than it was in mere hi-fi. His greatest singing moments have been recaptured and literally recreated, making it possible for those who enjoyed "the Voice" long ago to marvel at today's far truer reproduction of the bounce and delight in "I've Got the World on a String."

Then modern technology double-crossed me. Mr. Sinatra produced a new album of the old songs, called "Duets," supposedly sung together with such stars

as Liza Minnelli and Julio Iglesias. Much as I despise Mr. Sinatra's bridgework between entertainment, casinos and crime, I have always admired his artistry, and therefore bought the CD.

It is a disaster: his voice is shot. Not all the vocal technique and tricks of recording enhancement and propping-up by other voices can make him sound other than the pitiful straining of an old man pretending to be the singer he is no longer. Unlike Garbo and Dietrich, who refused to be photographed in their later years lest it spoil the public's memory of their beauty, Mr. Sinatra greedily diminishes his reputation.

Worse, and more to my point today, the "duets" are a series of artistic frauds. The singers never sang together, never interacted. Mr. Sinatra wheezed out his soundtrack, and later the others — by telephone — laid down their counterfeit counterpart, much as Natalie Cole created her macabre "duet" a few years ago with her dead father's "Unforgettable."

The question raised is this: When a performer's voice and image can not only be edited, echoed, refined, spliced, corrected and enhanced — but can be transported and combined with others not physically present — what is a performance? In our lust for technical brilliance, are we losing the integrity of individual talent?

Arthur Rubinstein and Vladimir Horowitz were not above fixing a wrong note or two in record-

ings of their piano recitals; but then Glenn Gould carried that to an extreme of fitting together bits of tape into a mosaic he improperly called a performance.

In the same way, politicians have speechwriters to polish their prose; actors get face-lifts; television newscasters wear makeup and employ dazzling graphics; even pundits have copy editors who save them from embarrassments (and one of us has to study up on fussed particulars). But this acknowledged outside help is not in the same league with the on-rushing multimedia concoction of a mass of talents and electronic techniques masquerading as an artistic entity.

Isn't it time for truth-in-show-biz? Shouldn't an audience demand some idea of how much is human and how much is electronically enhanced before it is asked to suspend disbelief? If we accept a star manufactured by an audio-graphic mixer, we make a mockery of individual talent and a mockery of artistic genius.

Enough of additives, plasticity, virtual reality; give me organic entertainment. I want to see Liza Minnelli alone on stage or Karen Akers in cabaret, even if that individual performance is presented on a small screen. It's O.K. if they sweat, or forget a lyric, or hit a sour note. That's the kind of art that lives.

And that is why I play the tape of the CD of the authentic, '60s Frank Sinatra on the stereo of my 1969 Cougar convertible on the way to work. It makes me feel so young.

The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unappreciated Turkey

Regarding "Here's a Better Road for Turkey Travel" (Opinion, Oct. 29) by William Safire:

Mr. Safire, whose sharp-edged analyses of world affairs we enjoy, has disappointed many Turkish readers, including myself, with this unfair assault on Turkey, which he ridiculed as "an ally whose cooperation is for sale."

Ankara, of course, has a tested record as a steadfast and reliable ally of the West, both during the Cold War and after. It has always (at times to the extent of naïveté) put the interests and goals of the Atlantic alliance before its own.

Turkey currently confronts serious challenges both within its borders and in adjacent regions: Syrian invasion and sponsorship of subversion by Kurdish guerrillas; Iran's quest for regional domination, partly by fanning religious fundamentalism; threats by some of a "Grand Armenia" at the expense of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey; revived imperialism in Russia; and Greek enmity. The stances of Ankara's NATO allies on these policy challenges have been ambivalent. Despite Turkey's strategic importance and the magnitude of its domestic problems, it is difficult to say that it receives any meaningful support from its allies, including the United States.

Ankara has assumed a valuable role in a changed world at a time when the West is less able or inclined to reward it. Encircled by hostility, Turkey has had to shoulder an even greater defense budget while other NATO members slow their own military spending.

MEHMET OGUTCU, Paris.

al policemen turn out to be unreliable, or worse? Can we, for example, accept Nigeria (nominated by Mr. Maynes for regional hegemony) to have free rein to arrange matters in West Africa? Or, for Russia, under the possible leadership of Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, to intervene anywhere in the former Soviet Union?

Neither NATO nor the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has the mandate and clout to provide the required international court of appeal. The only, admittedly creaky, vehicle that seems reliable is the United Nations — but not as presently constituted.

We clearly cannot continue to count on big-power unanimity in the UN Security Council — witness China's current reluctance to support sanctions against North Korea on the nuclear issue. Nor is the somewhat artificial distinction between peacekeeping and peace-making likely to be sustainable in a world of ethnic splintering and shifting of sovereignty.

The approaching 50th anniversary of the UN Charter may provide the opportunity to reassess some of its more obvious warms. Admit Japan, Germany, India and Brazil into the Security Council; replace the veto by a weighted voting system, as in the World Bank; abandon the Somalia-generated blame game, and renew support for a small, tripartite UN force. All this would be consistent with Mr. Maynes's realistic call for regional spheres of influence, but while not guaranteeing the dawning of that new world order we were promised, it would at least provide for some general rules to hold hegemony to.

GUSTAV RANIS, Berlin.

Rules of the Game

Regarding "Toward Spheres of Influence, Plus International Rules" (Opinion, Dec. 23) by Charles William Maynes:

With the only remaining superpower unwilling to pay even a small price to ensure stability in faraway places, Mr. Maynes proposes a system of decentralized spheres of influence to be patrolled among major regional powers. This, he contends, would constitute an acceptable version of Realpolitik "if the dominant powers in each region agreed to exercise authority in accordance with an international process."

But he fails to tell us about this international process. What happens if one of the suggested region-

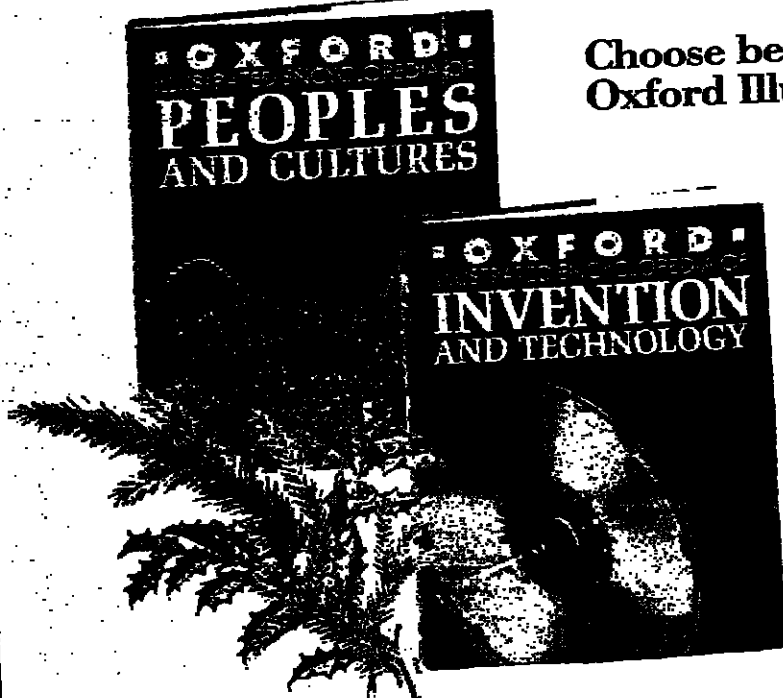
A Spanish Nightmare

Regarding "The Tangled Tale of the Empty Galleries" (Features, Dec. 20) by Alan Riding:

We Americans, being fascinated with foreign cultures, are often wont to think that problems such as those incurred by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in its attempts to mount a major Spanish art exhibition, are symptoms of deep-seated cultural differences. But as anyone who has done or tried to do business in Spain will tell you, Spanish bureaucracy is a nightmare. Its tangled structure ultimately leaves no one answerable for anything.

BILL WILLIAMS, Barcelona.

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HAYMA

STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT



Charles Gittinga Maima (left) and Kevin Bacon in "The Air Up There," a tale of an American basketball coach who finds a star in Africa.

Out of Africa, a Slam-Dunk Movie Tale

By Peter Applebome
New York Times Service

ATLANTA — Charles Gittinga Maima had one small problem in his acting debut as an African tribesman who becomes a basketball prodigy in "The Air Up There."

"I would get into a scene, and I would want to laugh because I know it's not true," said Maima, a 20-year-old from Nairobi. "I'd say a line like, 'We don't eat chicken, and I'd be laughing inside, because I'd eaten chicken the night before.'"

The film, directed by Paul M. Glaser and co-starring Winston Ntshona and Kevin Bacon, opens in New York Friday.

Maima is a city kid whose life in Nairobi had more in common with life in Los Angeles (where he auditioned) than with the rural background of the warrior Selele he plays. He did, however, bring useful credentials to the part: He was the winner of the 1991 Nairobi Slam Dunk Championship. And his unshooked performance turned

out to be exactly what the filmmakers were seeking.

"The Air Up There" began as a fantasy by Mark Apple, the Houston author and screenwriter, who is an ardent fan of the Houston Rockets and especially their star center, Hakeem Olajuwon. In 1980 Olajuwon left his home in Lagos, Nigeria, to attend the University of Houston.

"The Air Up There" tells of an ambitious American basketball coach (Bacon) who comes to Africa to recruit a towering teenager from the fictional "Wimbi" tribe in Kenya. (The coach, played by Kevin Bacon, is based loosely on the Samuray of Kenya, an offshoot of the Masai.)

The coach plans to transform this teenager into the next Olajuwon, Maima Bol or Dikembe Mutombo — Africans who went on to play in the National Basketball Association.

The film was shot mostly in Kenya and South Africa, with a cast that includes African actors and athletes and Samuray tribesmen. Since the cast was recruited from various parts of Africa, the actors in the film speak Zulu, Swahili and Shona.

"What I had in mind was someone just like Hakeem, a former soccer goalie, who was just having fun, who began playing not as a business but as play in the purest sense," said Apple. "Gittinga has it. There's a playful quality, a sweetness about him."

Hollywood Pictures, which is releasing the film, sent Maima on a publicity tour of basketball arenas with Bob McAdoo, a former Los Angeles Lakers star who is an adviser on the film. Interviewed at an Atlanta hotel, Maima was sporting a close-cropped cut and a cap in the bold green, yellow and black of the African National Congress.

In his sportswear from Los Angeles and his Lakers sweatpants, Maima, at 6 foot 8 inches (2 meters), looks like any basketball-crazed youth on an American playground. Only his accented English — and his casual attitude about basketball — mark him as Kenyan. "In Kenya, basketball is not a big deal," he explained. "You can't make money or a career at it. We play for the leisure of it, the fun of it."

Maima said he showed up at the audition as a kid. When asked his hobby, he announced he was a "dunkaholic." Of the 46 people who auditioned, he was one of two flown to Los Angeles for the screen test. In short order, he was given the part.

In some ways, handling the role was easy, said Maima, who is Kilgryn and whose father is an auditor with a telecommunications firm and whose mother is a nurse in Nairobi.

"I could get the character out of me at any time, because he's a lot like me, smiling, laughing, playing jokes," he said. "He's basically a happy guy."

Maima — wearing tribal regalia, his face and body painted with intricate designs — was also called upon in the movie to display a striking, quiet dignity as the son of the tribe's leader (Ntshona).

The film offers a complex message about the ways different cultures — African and American — can intermingle while maintaining their distinctiveness. Wimbi wants to perform at the championship basketball game, for instance, but their cheers are done as African chants.

Maima, who knew little of the elegant rituals of the Samuray before he began working on the film, has a life that similarly blends African and American cultures.

"I'm a city boy," he said. This fan of Charlie Chaplin movies, who watched "The Bill Cosby Show" at home in Nairobi, read up on Samuray culture to prepare for the movie. "The Samuray life," he said, "is more alien to me than what I see in the cities in the United States."

Prior to making the film, Maima planned to study computers and business at a college in Kenya. Now, he is hoping life will imitate art: He wants to play basketball at an American university.

As for acting, Maima says: "Basically, I see it as a one-shot deal." He would do another movie, he says, "only if it didn't interfere with going to college."

London to Launch Arts Fest

By Susan Kesenko Coll

LONDON — When Sir Basil Feldman first tried to organize an arts festival here 10 years ago, he met with unanimous resistance. The arts scene in London is too vast to organize, said the skeptics. And besides, he was told, the city is, by its nature, a festival already.

But Feldman, a self-described "arts junkie" who is a member of the English Tourist Board, was undeterred. He set to work to try to persuade others of his vision. His persistence was not in vain: Feb. 1 marks the launch of the London Arts Season, a £1.5 million (\$2.2 million) promotion that will link more than 100 of the city's arts venues in an effort to stimulate tourism during the off-peak months of February and March.

Should the prospect of the Picasso exhibit at the Tate Gallery, a performance of "Macbeth" starring Derek Jacobi, or an evening with Jose Carreras in a tribute to Mario Lanza fail to sufficiently intrigue, the festival will offer a host of "behind the scenes" activities to complement the average of about 100 events daily.

For £22, for example, one can not only procure a ticket to "Cats" but attend a backstage workshop or meet the cast. Similarly, there are "meet the cast" opportunities for "The Woman in Black," "Starlight Express," "Miss Saigon" and "Buddy." Other special events will include a backstage tour of the Royal Shakespeare Company, a party before the performance of "Five Guys Named Moe" and a series of jazz brunches at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Feldman hopes that, aside from luring tourists, the

promotion will help to facilitate their arrangements once they arrive. A brochure, printed in five languages and distributed in 27 countries, offers the opportunity to book events, and tickets have been set aside to help ensure seats for more popular performances.

In addition, a special desk will be set up at the British Travel Centre on Regent Street, where a listing of every event is available. The festival will also offer a "White Card" that will provide entrance to 13 galleries and museums for a fixed price, as well as a "London Arts Card" that will entitle visitors to discounts and gifts at various establishments.

The promotion, run under the auspices of the English Tourist Board, the British Tourist Authority, and the London Tourist Board, along with private sponsorship, is intended to highlight the links between tourism and the arts. Tourism is worth about £5 billion a year to London, according to recent surveys, and arts and entertainment lure more than half of Britain's overseas visitors.

Prime Minister John Major has agreed to be the guest of honor at a reception to be held in early February, which will attempt to bring together leading figures in tourism and the arts from both Britain and abroad.

Should all go well, says Feldman, this is only the beginning. "I think the London Arts Season will become an annual, regular event. We can make a case for bringing it other times of the year," he adds. "I wanted to get it off the ground by beginning with offering people something at a time of year when there was a distinct commercial benefit."

Susan Kesenko Coll is a free-lance writer living in London.

Wild and Bleak Dreams

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Alan Ayckbourn's 44th play may well be his bleakest to date. "Wild Dreams," at the Barbican, is the story of four losers who escape their social despair by meeting weekly to play a dungeons-and-dragons game in which they can sublimate their hopeless characters into such fantasy figures as Alric the Wise and Idonia the Enchantress.

But as often in Ayckbourn territory, all it takes is one nonplaying outsider to bring the game crashing to pieces and with it most of the players. Here is Marcie (Sophie Thompson), a workmate of one of the misfits, and by the end of a short evening she has reduced the others to gibbering wrecks by showing up all their shortcomings.

The domestic tribulations that emerge range from child abuse to senile dementia. Brother is set against brother, husband against wife, reality against fantasy and no student of Ayckbourn can be surprised by the emotional wreckage that litters the stage long before the last scene.

"Wild Dreams" is about the

games people play to avoid facing up to the truth about themselves or those with whom they have been forced by reasons of parentage or marriage to share their lives. But Ayckbourn's production has a tough time convincing us that he has found anything new in his lament for the human condition. If

LONDON THEATRE

he has a message, the lantern with which he flashes it to us is flickering very dimly around the pit.

Brenda Blethyn, Barry McCarthy and Jenna Russell as the other players all do what they can with limited resources, but in a play about role-playing it is ironic that Ayckbourn has written some of his thinnest roles.

At the King's Head is a joyous revival of Kaufman and Hart's Pulitzer Prize-winning "You Can't Take It With You" from 1936. This was their greatest popular success and seen now, toward what looks like the end of a similar economic and social period, it has a remarkable mix of timelessness and topicality.

Essentially it's the story of one kooky New York household: Grandfather has done nothing but

The Divine Sarah, Public and Private

By Thomas Quinn Curtiss
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — For more than 60 years after the golden-haired, enigmatic actress Sarah Bernhardt thrilled millions around the world, after becoming the pride of Paris as a public ornament and yearning for other lands to conquer, she toured Europe with her company and then expanded her travels worldwide.

Books about her abound and new ones continue to come out in many languages. But some are unreliable, and Bernhardt's own memoirs are only a very partial disclosure.

They stop at 1888, 35 years before her death.

Now Vladimir Forgery, a French film and television director, has undertaken a monumental study of the Divine One's private and public lives that is to span three volumes. The first of these, "Sarah Bernhardt Scandalous" (Editions J'ai lu), has just been published. Forgery has unearthed valuable information about this illegitimate daughter of a milliner who rose to the heights of the stage profession.

Forgery's first volume of his Bernhardt trilogy has the flow of a rapid drama, fascinating and full of suspense. It contains the

material for a play or a film as it sets before us the indefatigable actress who rose from poverty and despair to become the intimate of the great artists and authors of her age. She was one of the first superstars and her legend has survived.

In the 1950s the American critic George Jean Nathan, talking with a Paris colleague visiting New York, asked about French actors he recalled and was pleased that they were still alive. Nathan then inquired, "And is Sarah Bernhardt still dead?"

"Sarah is an artist who will never die," replied his guest. "She is the idol of every young actress in France."

BOOKS

KAFKA WAS THE RAGE

By Anatole Broyard, 149 pages, \$18. Carol Southern Books.

Reviewed by Joyce Johnson

IN 1948, 28-year-old Anatole Broyard made his reputation by publishing an essay about the hipsters, those members of his generation whose alienation was so deep as to drive them into the subterranean depths of Bohemia. The essay could have been entitled "A Request for the Hipster," since, rather dismissively, Broyard chose to write in the past tense about a subculture that had just captured public attention.

"As he was the illegitimate son of the Lost Generation, the hipster was

really nowhere. And just as hipsters often seem to localize their strongest sensations in the missing link, so the hipster longed, from the very beginning, to be somewhere. He was like a bottle on its back; his life was a struggle to get straight. But the laws of human gravity kept him overturned, because he was always of the minority — opposed in race or feeling to those who owned the machinery of recognition."

The hipsters were the precursors of the Beats, the movement that would burst up from the underground 10 years later and release the pent-up, anxious criticism of young Americans. Looking back to the late '40s, Anatole Broyard writes in "Kafka Was the Rage," his unfinished, posthumously published memoir, "No one knew then that we would turn out to be right

in trying to escape from freedom." As a young, ambitious intellectual, arriving in Greenwich Village in 1946 immediately after getting out of the army, Broyard allied himself fairly quickly not with the hipsters but with the circle of older, mostly Jewish writers whose work appeared in the Partisan Review. He opened a secondhand bookstore on Cornelia Street and for a time was the Hemingwayesque guide who led Delmore Schwartz, Dwight Macdonald and Clement Greenberg into a world of nocturnal experience outside the realm of books and ideas in forays to the Los Happy Boys barroom in Spanish Harlem. Broyard studied with Erich Fromm, Karen Horney and Meyer Shapiro at the New School for Social Research and tried to cultivate a European despair and a liking for

abstract art, but even then he longed to get straight.

As I read "Kafka Was the Rage," I kept being reminded of another unfinished memoir, Ernest Hemingway's "A Moveable Feast." Both are seductive, ardently written books by elderly men about the bygone Bohemias of their youth. Both memoirs could be described as valentines — but valentines with bars.

When Broyard was writing about the more sexually reluctant young women he relentlessly pursued, women who "were their souls like seagulls that they never took off," who had a touching air of crucifixion as they removed their brassieres, there were traces of contempt. It was not surprising that when Broyard became a mainstream book critic for The New York Times during the 1970s, the emerging feminist writers found many of his reviews gratuitously hostile.

"Kafka Was the Rage" also made me feel deeply nostalgic when I wasn't winning.

Broyard was writing his best when he was celebrating rather than disparaging, and he did absolutely capture the hopes, the anxieties, the youthful energy — both sexual and intellectual — and the historical grandiosity of the luminous years when everyone in Washington Square was carrying a book. "Though much of the Village was shabby, I didn't mind. I thought all character was a form of shabbiness, a wearing away of surfaces. I saw this shabbiness as our version of ruins, the relic of a short history. The sadness of the buildings was literature. I was twenty-six, and sadness was a stimulant, even an aphrodisiac."

Joyce Johnson, the author of "Minor Characters" and "In the Night Cafe," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BEST SELLERS

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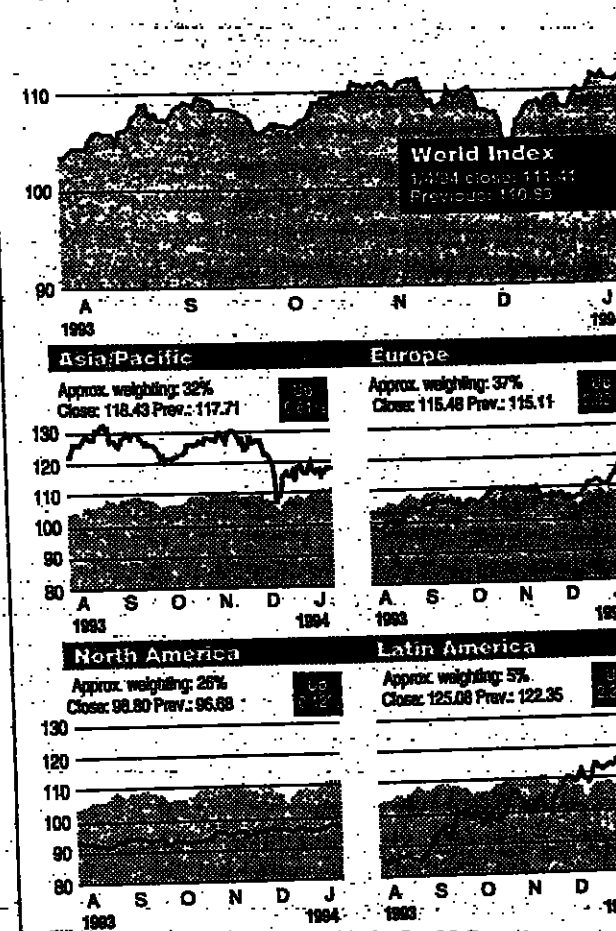
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BARBADOS	1-800-388-2111
BARBADOES	1-800-877-8000
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BELIZE (HOTEL)	506
BELIZE (PVT. PHONES)	1-4
BENIN	001-800-822-0877
BOLIVIA	0800-3333
BRAZIL	000-8006
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	1-800-877-8000
CANADA	1-800-877-8000
CHILE	00-00371
COLUMBIA-ENGLISH	988-10-0010
COLUMBIA-SPANISH	988-10-0110
COSTA RICA	163
CYPRUS	000-900-11
CZECH REPUBLIC	042-087-187
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	8001-0877
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1-800-758-7877
ECUADOR	171
EL SALVADOR	191
FINLAND	9000-1-0284
FRANCE	18-0087
GERMANY	0330-0003
GREECE	000-001-411
GUATEMALA	195
HONGKONG	001-800-1212000
HUNGARY	001-800-01-877
IRELAND	1-800-55-8001
ISRAEL	177-003-2727
ITALY	172-8777
JAPAN	800-1-777
KENYA	800-777
LEBANON	855-7777
LITHUANIA	8187
LUXEMBOURG	8000-0105
MEXICO	95-800-877-8000
MOROCCO	18-0087
NETHERLANDS	06-022-8188
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES	001-800-751111
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PARAGUAY	000-12-800
PERU	196
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RUSSIA (MOSCOW)	172-8777
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SWEDEN	020-798-011
SWITZERLAND	055-8777
THAI	23
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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	800-121
UNITED KINGDOM (BRISTOL)	0000-888-877
UNITED KINGDOM (LONDON)	0000-888-877
UNITED KINGDOM	0000-888-800
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U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS	1-800-877-8000
URUGUAY	000417
VIETNAM	172-1877
VENEZUELA-ENGLISH	800-1111-1
VENEZUELA-SPANISH	800-1111-1

THE TRIB INDEX: 111.41

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and other major financial centers. The index is composed of the 20 top listed firms in each of the five major sectors.

Industry Sector	Index	Price	% Change
Energy	110.13	109.71	+0.38
Utilities	118.09	117.82	+0.27
Finance	113.59	113.50	+0.09
Services	118.59	118.69	+0.08
Capital Goods	111.82	110.94	+0.84
New Materials	114.97	113.31	+1.67
Consumer Goods	98.10	98.57	+0.54
Miscellaneous	136.74	135.23	+1.12

For U.S. Investors, Payoff at Last

Dividend Increases Hit a 10-Year High in December

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The long dividend drought is ending for investors in American companies. A rush of dividend increases in the final month of 1993 made it the best December since 1983 in terms of the number of companies raising their dividends. This helped push the payoff on the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index up significantly.

It is a pretty much a reflection of what is happening in the economy," said Arnold Kaufman, editor of Standard & Poor's Corp.'s Outlook newsletter, which released the figures. "I think dividends will remain strong in 1994."

Dividend moves are a lagging indicator of the economy, because companies tend to increase payoffs only after they have seen profits rise and are confident that the increase can be sustained. In December, 171 American companies announced dividend increases, far above the total of 121 a year earlier and just short of the record for December of 175, set a decade earlier.

For the entire year, there were 1,635 increases, a 23 percent increase from the 1992 figure of 1,333 and just below the 1989 level of 1,656.

The most watched figure on dividends, however, is the payout

rate on the S&P 500 stocks. A hypothetical investor who bought shares in each of the companies in the index at the end of last week could look forward to dividends totaling \$12.74 over the next year for each \$466.45 paid — assuming the companies pay out as indicated by their current annual rate. That indicated a yield on the index of 2.73 percent.

That \$12.74 payout rose from

\$12.62 in early December as a number of companies in the index announced dividend increases.

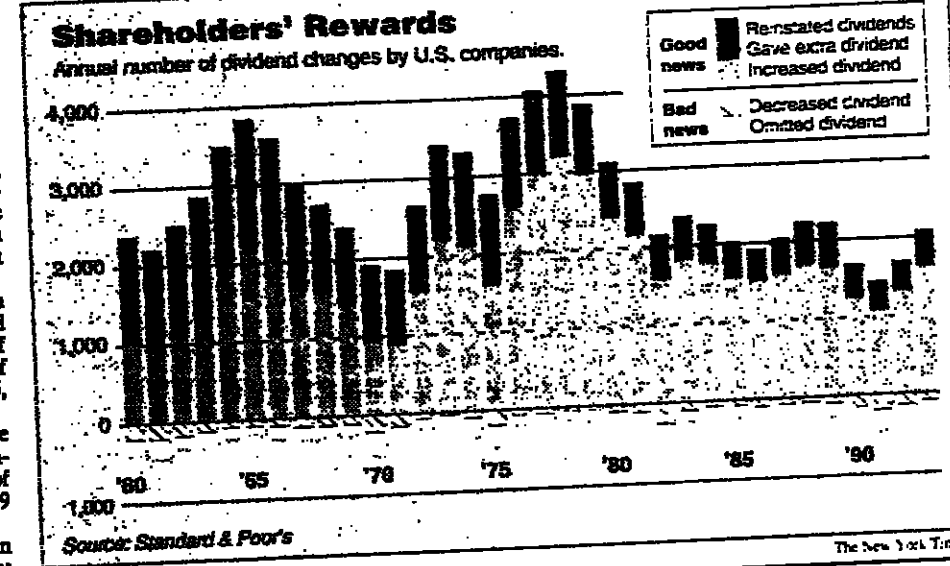
The actual payout on the index in 1993, Mr. Kaufman estimated, was about \$12.51, up only 2 percent from \$12.27 in 1992. He estimated that the payments would rise 6 percent this year, to \$13.25.

Even using that estimate, an

investor buying the S&P 500 index at the end of 1993 could expect to get a dividend yield of only 2.84 percent. A yield of less than 3 percent has traditionally been viewed as a warning that stocks were getting overvalued.

Bulls say, however, that with interest rates down sharply throughout the economy, the 3

See DIVIDENDS, Page 11



Bristol-Myers Will Slash 5,000 Jobs

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. said Tuesday it would cut 5,000 jobs, about 10 percent of its worldwide total, over the next two years as reorganizations.

About 1,500 of the jobs will be lost through a voluntary early retirement program offered to employees in September. The company refused to say if all of the restructuring costs would be covered by a charge. Bristol-Myers took in the fourth quarter of 1992.

About 3,000 jobs are to be cut in Bristol-Myers' pharmaceutical division, which is being reorganized. Of that number, 700 will be from early retirement.

In the United States, the company's sales force will be reorganized into 12 regional business units supported by a managed-care operation and a marketing staff. The sales force previously was separate.

The Pharmaceutical Group's European operations also will be reorganized. As a result, the current structure of four regions will be disbanded, wiping out one layer of management, and 11 business units now will report directly to a European headquarters in Munich.

As managed care increases its presence on the health-care landscape, drug makers have been forced to cut prices in negotiations with large purchasers such as

health maintenance organizations and other third-party payers who demand discounts.

The is the second wave of cutbacks in little more than a year. In October 1992, Bristol-Myers said it was cutting its worldwide work force by 10 percent, about 2,200 jobs, amid pressure to keep the lid on drug prices.

Some analysts have said Bristol-Myers has long been in need of a restructuring. Its sales are flat, and earnings per share have been considered modest even in an industry that has been facing difficulties.

The company's core businesses — pharmaceuticals, medical devices, nonprescription health prod-

ucts and toiletries and beauty aids — are expected to either have posted a decline in sales of about 1 percent or gains of no more than 2 percent, according to Neil Sweig, an analyst with Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co.

The company reported revenue of \$11.12 billion in 1992. Analysts have predicted sales rose to \$11.58 billion last year.

Pharmaceuticals companies have been scrambling to cut costs for the past year in anticipation of new rules leading to lower revenues under the President Bill Clinton's health-care plan.

(Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, AP, UPI)

Falling Output Raises Doubts In Germany

Reuters

BONN — West German industrial output has fallen more sharply than expected, figures released on Tuesday showed, raising fears that the economy may not be recovering as expected.

These figures show that all the talk about a recovery is far too early," Gerhard Grebe, chief economist with Bank Julius Bar.

Industrial output in Western Germany fell 2.1 percent in November from the previous month, the Economics Ministry had said. According to Bundesbank statistics, it was 4.5 percent below the level of November 1992.

The Federal Statistics Office, which prepares the data for the ministry, said that it expected to revise the November figures to show an even larger fall.

The decline in November output was partly due to a cold spell that brought building activity to a halt, but economists said a surprisingly steep 1.8 percent fall in factory output indicated business confidence remained weak.

The figures came as a surprise since the latest business survey by the respected Ifo Institute for Economic Research had suggested production was stabilizing.

Because of the sharp fall in manufacturing output, economists said the decline in overall production could not be attributed solely to bad weather but suggested that gross domestic product in the fourth quarter would decline.

Economists had been expecting GDP, which rose 0.5 percent in both the second and third quarters of 1993 after falling in the two previous quarters, to show continued growth in the fourth. After the figures were released on Tuesday, they said government forecasts of 1994 GDP growth of up to 1 percent were too optimistic.

"One percent GDP growth in 1994 will now be difficult to achieve," said Mr. Schneider.

West German industry orders data for November, expected later this week, will provide an indication of the size of the expected decline in December's production

figures. Orders fell 0.3 percent in October from the previous month. Output could rise in the first quarter if retail sales were good at the end of 1993, if building activity picks up after December's floods and if business confidence continues to improve.

"If business confidence holds up, maybe we will see some growth starting in January or February," said Alison Cottrell, economist with Midland Global Markets.

But economists also said there was a chance that West Germany could slip into a so-called "double-dip" recession.

"If the first quarter turns out to be negative, then I would say it's a double-dip, but if orders and business confidence continue to show stability, then I'd say it's not," said Ms. Cottrell.

Despite the unification of East and West Germany in 1990, separate statistics are still published.

France Names Outside Members Of Bank Panel

Reuters

PARIS — The six lay members of the newly installed Bank of France's Monetary Policy Council were chosen late on Tuesday.

Sources close to the talks said President Francois Mitterrand, a Socialist, had been pressing for Michel Sapin, finance minister in the Socialist government defeated in March, to be on the powerful nine-member panel.

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, a conservative, initially resisted the nomination but later agreed.

The sources said that Michel Albert would resign as chairman of the state-owned Assurances Generales de France to join the panel, along with Jean Boissonnat, an economic commentator. The sources said three other candidates, whom they did not identify, had been largely agreed. The six will join Banque de France Governor Jean-Claude Trichet and two deputies on the panel.

MEDIA MARKETS

What's Missing? Surprise!

By Bernard Weinraub
New York Times Service

HOLLYWOOD — Forget comedy sequels. Worry about westerns. Focus on A-list movie stars, but only if they play predictable roles: Robin Williams as a nanny, Julia Roberts as a woman on the run, Tom Cruise as a vicious yuppie lawyer in danger.

With movie studios planning to release at least 150 films in 1994, the economic lessons of 1993 have made Hollywood jittery. The average cost of a film is about \$25 million, there were more duds than hits, and some of the biggest studios endured financial flops in a generally bleak year.

The good news for Hollywood in 1994 is that on Wall Street, studios are generally deemed valuable properties, as the struggle for control of Paramount Communications Inc. has shown.

The bad news is that its films generally remain costly to make and aesthetically impoverished. Even Universal Pictures, which produced Steven Spielberg's "Jurassic Park," the No. 1 movie of the year and the highest-grossing film in history, faced disappointments — it is expected to wind up third in market share, behind Warner Brothers and Buena Vista, the distributing arm of the Walt Disney studios, but ahead of Columbia Pictures, 20th Century Fox, Paramount and TriStar.

For 1994, then, Hollywood executives will be coming to a none-too-startling conclusion: "It'll be more of the same," said Joe Roth, the former chairman of 20th Century Fox. "There were seven movies in 1993 that did \$100 million. Each of them could have been picked by a kid in the fourth grade. There were big stars doing exactly what the audience wanted them to do."

To be specific, there were: Steven Spielberg playing with dinosaurs, Harrison Ford in "The Fugitive," Tom Cruise as a lawyer in "The Firm," Clint Eastwood as an aging Secret Service agent in

"In the Line of Fire," Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in the romantic "Sleepless in Seattle," and, according to Mr. Roth and others, Robin Williams in "Mrs. Doubtfire" and Julia Roberts and Denzel Washington in "The Pelican Brief."

The predictions of big hits for the new year are, well, predictable. These include two Warner Brothers films — "Maverick," starring Mel Gibson, and "The Usual Suspects," starring Kevin Spacey, an epic starring Kevin Costner, Gene Hackman and Dennis Quaid, opening in July.

Yet Warner Brothers and other studios are nervous about the westerns. These films were given the green light after the success in recent years of "Dances With Wolves" and "Unforgiven." This year, however, "Geronimo," produced by Columbia, fared poorly. And Warner Brothers' "A Perfect World" proved disappointing.

Comedy sequels in 1993, such as "Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit" and "Adam's Family Values," also did less business than expected. But several sequels are coming, including Paramount's "Beverly Hills Cop 3" starring Eddie Murphy, Billy Crystal's "City Slickers 2," a Castle Rock-Columbia project, and Universal's "Flintstones."

Other high-profile films that Hollywood executives see as potentially hitting the \$100 million mark are Walt Disney's animated "The Lion King" and a comedy with Julia Roberts and Nick Nolte, "I Love Trouble," with the Vampire, starring Robert Pattinson, late in the year.

Paramount is making an adaptation of the Tom Clancy novel "Clear and Present Danger," starring Harrison Ford.

For all the predictions, the most common piece of wisdom in Hollywood is the one expressed several years ago by the screenwriter and novelist William Goldman. It is repeated like a mantra at this time of year: "No one knows anything."

Metall Said To Prepare Share Offer

AFP-Exel News

FRANKFURT — Metallgesellschaft AG is expected to raise about 300 million Deutsche marks (\$172.8 million) through a rights issue of 1.2 million shares priced at 250 DM each, industry sources said Tuesday.

The sources said the new stock is expected to be issued soon and will use up all of the company's 60 million DM in nominal authorized but unissued capital. The company refused to comment on the possible rights issue before a meeting Wednesday of the company's creditor banks.

Metallgesellschaft has issued capital of 8.835 million shares, worth a nominal 441.75 million DM. The company's stock ended Tuesday at 267.5 DM, down 11.5.

The sources said the rights issue is expected to top the agenda of Wednesday's meeting between Deutsche Bank AG and Dresdner Bank AG, which together own more than 23 percent of Metallgesellschaft.

Last week, the company confirmed reports that its gross debt totaled 8 billion DM. Metallgesellschaft's financial difficulties worsened following heavy losses by its U.S. subsidiary MG Corp. in oil futures, which led to the dismissal of a number of board members, including Heinz Schimmling, the company's chief executive.

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to grow substantially, a testament to the group's strong balance sheets, risk-averse orientation and century-old heritage. All banks in the group are locally managed, attuned to the language and culture of their customers. They share a philosophy that emphasizes lasting relationships and mutual trust. Those values were once the foundation of banking. At Republic, they have been and always will be.

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Jan. 4									
Eurocurrency Deposits									
					Dollar	Swiss Franc	Starting	French	Yen
					3-month	6-month	9-month	6-month	12-month
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Source: Reuters' Livestock Bank.									
Notes: Available to interbank deposits of \$1 million minimum for overnight.									
Key Money Rates									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
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United States									
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Canada									
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India									
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Italy									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Japan									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Korea									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Malaysia									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Netherlands									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
New Zealand									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Norway									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Pakistan									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Peru									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Philippines									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Portugal									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Romania									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Russia									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Singapore									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
South Africa									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Spain									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Sweden									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Switzerland									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month	24-month	36-month
					12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
Taiwan									
					Cash	Prov.	Bank	Govt	Yen
					1 month	3-month	6-month	9-month	12-month
					3 months	6-month	9-month	12-month	18-month
					6 months	9-month	12-month	18-month	24-month
					9 months	12-month	18-month</		

MARKET DIARY

Bond Rally Pushes Stock Prices Up

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — Prices rose Tuesday on the New York Stock Exchange as gains in the Treasury market helped to offset concern about rising interest rates.

The bond market has stabilized today, and that's giving the market a boost, said John Blair, head trader at NatWest Securities Corp.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 27.30 points, to 3,783.90.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 1.45, to 466.89, while the

serve Board to boost money-market rates early this year. Elaine Garzarelli of Lehman Brothers, the prophet of the 1987 market collapse, turned slightly less bullish Tuesday on U.S. stocks in part because of concern about rising money-market rates.

"The federal funds rate had been on a steady decline since December 1989; however, with a stronger economic outlook, further declines will likely be limited," Ms. Garzarelli said, referring to the charge on overnight interbank loans.

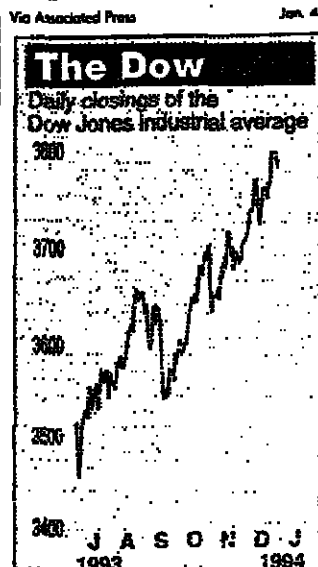
Shares of computer and drug manufacturers, which underperformed market averages in recent months, rallied.

Oracle Corp. rebounded 1 1/2% to 30 1/2 after falling almost 16% in the past two weeks on concern about the earnings outlook. Oracle was added to the "focus" list at S.G. Warburg & Co.

Drug stocks were higher, led by Merck & Co., which gained 3/4% to 36, and Syntex Corp., which rose 1/2% to 16 1/2. "The health-care industry is driving inexorably toward managed care," said Frederick Taylor, chief investment officer of U.S. Trust.

Carmakers rose amid the release of stronger-than-expected late-December vehicle sales and anticipation of the industry's annual trade show later in the week. Chrysler surged 2 1/2% to 56, GM was up 1 1/2% to 54 and Ford gained 1/2% to 63 1/2.

The recent rise in rates is due to concern that a robust economic recovery may cause the Federal Reserve



NYSE Most Active

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
IBM	121 1/4	121 1/4	121 1/4	+1 1/4
Microsoft	67 1/2	67 1/2	67 1/2	+1 1/2
Intel	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	+1 1/2
Oracle	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	+1 1/2
Syntex	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1 1/2
Merck	36	36	36	+3/4
Chrysler	56	56	56	+2 1/2
GM	54	54	54	+1 1/2
Ford	63 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2	+1/2

AMEX Most Active

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
IBM	121 1/4	121 1/4	121 1/4	+1 1/4
Microsoft	67 1/2	67 1/2	67 1/2	+1 1/2
Intel	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	+1 1/2
Oracle	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	+1 1/2
Syntex	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	+1 1/2
Merck	36	36	36	+3/4
Chrysler	56	56	56	+2 1/2
GM	54	54	54	+1 1/2
Ford	63 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2	+1/2

NYSE Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged	Total Issues
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006

Amex Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged	Total Issues
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006

NASDAQ Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged	Total Issues
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006

Dow Jones Averages

Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
3,756.59	3,783.90	3,756.59	3,783.90	+27.30
119.25	119.25	119.25	119.25	+0.00
137.71	137.71	137.71	137.71	+0.00

Standard & Poor's Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
466.89	466.89	466.89	+1.45
466.89	466.89	466.89	+1.45
466.89	466.89	466.89	+1.45

NYSE Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00

NASDAQ Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00

AMEX Stock Index

High	Low	Close	Chg.
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
119.25	119.25	119.25	119.25	+0.00
137.71	137.71	137.71	137.71	+0.00
137.71	137.71	137.71	137.71	+0.00

Market Sales

NYSE	AMEX	NASDAQ
1,002	1,002	1,002
1,002	1,002	1,002
1,002	1,002	1,002

SAP 100 Index Options

Strike	Call	Put	Chg.
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00
1,002	1,002	1,002	+0.00

NYSE Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged	Total Issues
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006

Amex Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged	Total Issues
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006

NASDAQ Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged	Total Issues
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006
1,002	1,002	1,002	3,006

Chevron Gives Workers Cash Bonus

Bloomberg Business News

SAN FRANCISCO — Chevron Corp. said Tuesday it would share the results of its improved financial performance by giving 42,500 workers a one-time cash bonus amounting to 5 percent of their base pay.

The payout was made because the company had met a five-year goal of achieving the highest total return to stockholders among U.S. oil companies. It will require the company to record a \$70 million charge in the fourth quarter.

Chevron also said it was giving each worker a special watch in recognition of the achievement.

Mobil Corp., meanwhile, said Tuesday it would take a \$250 million charge against fourth-quarter earnings due to the fall in oil prices.

EUROPEAN FUTURES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

Food

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

COFFEE (LCE)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

WHY SUGAR (LCE)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

Metals

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

3-MONTH EURO (LIFFE)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

U.S. FUTURES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

Grains

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

Metals

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

LIVESTOCK

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

CATTLE (CME)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

PORK (CME)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

HOGS (CME)

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

FINANCIAL

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

STOCK INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

COMMODITY INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

STOCK INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

COMMODITY INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

STOCK INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

COMMODITY INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

STOCK INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

COMMODITY INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

STOCK INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

COMMODITY INDEXES

Class	High	Low	Prev. Close
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25
COCA (LCE)	119.25	119.25	119.25

NASDAQ

Tuesday's Prices
NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

Source: NASDAQ Stock Market

High Low Last Bid Ask

100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000

Eurotunnel Gets Banks' Approval To Raise Funds

Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches

PARIS — Eurotunnel PLC said Tuesday that its bankers approved a financial plan that would give the operator of the Channel tunnel access to 10 billion francs (\$1.69 billion) to open the facility in March.

The financing, approved by the 23 banks that head Eurotunnel's banking syndicate, will also allow the company to meet its interest payments.

Half of the 10 billion francs will come from a capital increase to be launched later in the year. If agreements are reached rapidly, the push to raise funds from the public might get under way sometime near March 7, the scheduled date for the opening of the tunnel.

The other half of the 10 billion francs will come from new loans to be granted either by Eurotunnel's 220 creditor banks, other banks, or by the European Investment Bank.

An accord has originally been due for completion by Nov. 30, but the deadline was extended until Tuesday to allow more time for negotiations.

"What we have now is a framework agreement which will allow us to press ahead with plans for the rights issue," said Anabel Salmon, spokeswoman for Eurotunnel, "and which will allow banks to raise funds from the syndicate banks."

In early October, Eurotunnel issued new financial estimates, calculating that its cash requirements from its foundation in 1986 through the first commercial services in March would be \$8.75 billion (\$12.9 billion).

The announcement on Tuesday means it can go ahead with attempts to put that funding in place, although the accord does not itself guarantee the funds will be raised.

The agreement is the latest in a series of favorable developments for Eurotunnel. On Dec. 29, the British and French governments announced that they were extending their franchise on the tunnel to 55 years from 35 years, improving its revenue prospects and making it easier to find financing now.

In December, Eurotunnel settled a dispute with Bombardier Inc., which has been building trains for the tunnel.

(AFP, Bloomberg)

Investor's Europe

Exchange	Index	Tuesday C/38	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	DAX	7,573.94	7,564.86	+0.12
Brussels	Stock Index	2,263.58	2,267.96	-0.19
Frankfurt	DAX	855.67	854.59	+0.13
Frankfurt	FAZ	1,666.88	1,671.08	-0.25
Helsinki	HEX	2,552.20	2,559.80	-0.30
London	Financial Times 100	3,468.50	3,412.40	+0.29
London	FTSE 100	324.51	327.15	-0.78
Madrid	General Index	994.00	1,267.00	-0.71
Milan	MIB	2,274.34	2,290.56	-0.71
Paris	CAC 40	1,660.91	N.A.	N.A.
Stockholm	Afaersvaxindex	492.33	493.79	-0.30
Vienna	Stock Index	N.A.	1,021.85	N.A.
Zurich	SBS	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Sources: Reuters, AFP

Very briefly:

- French company bankruptcies rose by 11.2 percent in 1993, to 68,111.
- Société Nationale de Chemins de Fer Français, France's state-owned railway, announced a provisional loss of 7.3 billion francs (\$1.24 billion) for 1993, its worst result in 15 years.
- Mercedes-Benz AG is discussing a joint venture to make cars with Tata Group of India, the country's largest manufacturer, according to a Press Trust of India report quoting Tata Chairman Ratan Tata. Mercedes-Benz would hold 51 percent.
- Britain's key money supply barometer rose by 1 percent in December from November, bringing the increase during 1993 to 5.8 percent, well above the government's targeted ceiling of 4 percent announced last year.
- Pentland PLC, a British sports equipment company, bought a 90 percent stake in the Italian sports clothing Elisse for 50.6 billion lire (\$29.6 million).
- P & O European Ferries carried 8.9 million passengers on the cross-Channel route between Calais and Dover in 1993, a 20 percent increase from 1992.
- Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV said it planned to float its mobile telecommunications consortium if it wins a digital Europe-wide license offered by the Dutch government.

AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters, UPI

Options for Shell, Montedison

PARIS — Royal Dutch/Shell Group and Montedison SpA each have an option to buy out the other partner from the 50-50 plastics joint venture they announced last week.

Shell executive said Tuesday.

Jean-Pierre Meurin, the chairman of Shell Chimie, a unit of Shell France, said there was no timetable for exercising the option.

Mr. Meurin said there was no plan to shut sites once the two companies had merged their polyolefins businesses. "It is absolutely not expected," he said, "that we will close such and such a site."

Shell Chimie executives were giving some details of how the creation of the joint Shell/Montedison venture would affect Shell's French chemicals unit.

The venture will have 18.1 percent of world polypropylene capacity in a cyclical industry where competition is harsh and technological change is rapid. Polypropylene is used in car parts, wrappings and plastic housings.

Philippe Collot, head of petrochemicals at Shell Chimie, said world demand for polypropylene was growing at an annual rate of 6 percent.

Madrid Insists Its Takeover Of Banesto Was Justified

MADRID — Facing pressure from shareholders, Spanish authorities Tuesday stood by their decision last week to intervene at Banco Español de Crédito amid conflicting reports about the bank's situation.

The Bank of Spain took over the bank's management Dec. 28, firing Chairman Mario Conde and his board and igniting Spain's biggest banking crisis in years. The central bank said Banesto, awash in bad debt, lacked the resources to cover its liabilities.

A Spanish monetary source said Tuesday that although Banesto's adviser, J.P. Morgan & Co., had put its needs at substantially less than the 503 billion pesetas (\$3.52 billion) the central bank said it was short, Morgan had not given Madrid sufficient assurances that it would stand behind Banesto.

Confusion over the exact scale of Banesto's troubles has contributed to the concern among shareholders, some of whom fear that the bank's capital might be reduced to zero to meet its deficit.

"Morgan evidently considered that the Bank of Spain had been excessively prudent in its assessment," the monetary source said.

In a letter to the Bank of Spain on Dec. 27, a vice president of J.P. Morgan, Roberto Mendoza, said Banesto had devised a plan to cover its deficit. He added, "J.P. Morgan believes that Banesto's proposed plan is feasible and in the best interests of Banesto, its shareholders and the Spanish banking system."

But the Spanish monetary source said the letter, which also offered to lead a \$400 million debt issue in the second quarter of 1994 and sell half of Banesto's 50 percent stake in the Portuguese bank Banco Totta y Agore, did not offer sufficient guarantees.

"If the letter had represented a firmer commitment from New York, it might have received a different response," the source said.

GM and VW Have Their Day in Court

Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches

FRANKFURT — Another act in the drama between General Motors Corp. and Volkswagen AG begins Wednesday as a trial opens to decide if seven managers who GM claims were poached last year may remain at VW.

The trial in Frankfurt state court is the result of charges leveled by GM's German subsidiary Adam Opel AG that VW gained an unfair competitive advantage by hiring former GM managers. The two sides failed to reach an out-of-court settlement last year.

Although no witnesses will be called on Wednesday, according to a spokesman for the court, the trial will include appearances by the VW production chief, José Ignacio López de Arriortua, whose hiring from GM sparked the dispute, and by the management board chairman of VW, Ferdinand Pich.

The trial could develop into a long battle. "This should last for many months," the VW attorney handling the case, Jürgen Kicker, said. A spokesman for Opel, Bruno Seifert, said the proceedings could be concluded in as little as a month.

The trial is one of many legal proceedings involving VW and GM that began when Mr. López switched to the German carmaker from GM last March.

Opel is also pursuing criminal allegations of industrial espionage against Mr. López and VW. The charges are being investigated by authorities in both the United States and in Germany.

VW, which is suffering heavy losses as Europe's car market remains stuck in a deep recession, has pinned its turnaround hopes on

Mr. López's ability to slash costs, particularly by squeezing lower prices from component suppliers.

Mr. Pich in July compared the competitive environment to "economic war" and has consistently defended his Spanish-born production chief.

GM and Opel have persisted with their legal claims while charging VW with misleading the public with a company-commissioned audit last November, which VW executives said found no proof of industrial espionage by Mr. López.

In the Frankfurt case this week, Mr. Seifert of Opel said the court would be asked to confirm an earlier temporary order that barred VW from seeking to lure away other Opel managers with offers of doubled salaries.

In December a lower court rejected on a technicality an Opel request for temporary injunction banning further employment of the seven ex-GM workers in question.

But just after the decision was handed down, Opel's attorney, Heinz Wetterkamp, called the injunction proceedings a "sideshow" ahead of the main event beginning this week.

"We are confident that the main case in January will have a different outcome," an Opel board member, Horst Borghs, said after the December decision.

In other cases, prosecutors in Hamburg are investigating Mr. López on suspicion of making false statements under oath in a case in which a state court ruled that Der Spiegel magazine could repeat allegations of industrial espionage against him.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

DIVIDENDS: A Payout Payoff

Continued from Page 9

percent warning level may be outdated.

A year ago, those who followed the payout rate on the S&P 500 were seeing dividend reductions being made, especially by International Business Machines Corp. Those cuts reduced the annual payout rate from \$12.58 at the end of 1992 to a low of \$12.39 in late February 1993.

Fourteen companies that had stopped paying dividends reinstated them in December, bringing the total for the year to 75. Last month's total was the largest for any month since June 1979, and the year's figure was the highest since 1978.

By contrast, 106 companies eliminated dividends in 1993, down

from 146 in 1992 and from the peak of 266 in the recession year of 1990. Only twice in the last two decades have there been fewer companies eliminating dividends: 1987, with 104, and 1978, with 105.

The number of companies cutting dividends fell to 87 in 1993 from 131 in 1992 and from the 1991 peak of 187. The total was still a bit above the 1989 level of 85.

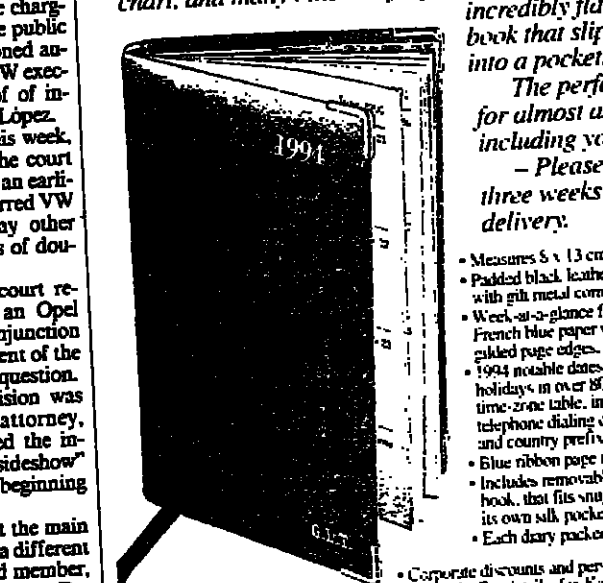
The dividend drought was at its worst in 1991, when only 1,086 companies announced increases, the lowest since 1971 — a year in which federal wage and price controls had made it difficult for many companies to raise payouts.

Apart from 1970 and 1971, when those controls were in effect, the total for 1991 was the lowest since 1962.

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The decree said that the taxes were aimed to build up the nation's hard currency reserves.

In a separate decree published in Narodnoye Slovo, the Finance Ministry ordered an increase in the prices of some basic foods in state-run shops. Meat and milk prices will rise 50 percent, while the price of flour will more than double.

The decree noted the government had previously promised all food prices would be freed from controls on Jan. 1 but that it had decided to "temporarily postpone" the subsidies.

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SPORTS

Like Him or Not, Oilers Need Him

By Michael Wilbon

Washington Post Service

Does Buddy Ryan have the Houston Oilers over a barrel or what? For the next three weeks, or as long as the Oilers stay alive in the NFL playoffs, he's the 900-pound elephant who can sit wherever he wants.

With Ryan coordinating Houston's defense, the Oilers have an 11-game winning streak, the NFL's longest season-ending streak in 21 years. With Ryan calling the defensive signals, the Oilers have become a team that's able to win outside, in the cold, against NFC teams. With Ryan, the Oilers are what the Raiders used to be: talented, nasty, baddacious, cantankerous, effective and probably even just a little bit feared.

Without the Budman, the Oilers are, well, you know, soft. Just another pretty, indoor, AFC team capable of blowing a 35-3 lead in the playoffs and incapable of beating anybody with real muscle.

The Oilers are as dependent on Ryan as the Chiefs are on Joe Montana, as the Cowboys are on Emmitt Smith. Which is why there's little if anything the Oilers can do about the fact that Ryan is a complete fool, as evidenced by his punishing offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride on the sideline Sunday in the AstroDome. Ryan's justification was that Gilbride had squandered a chance to run out the clock in the first half with the Oilers ahead, calling a pass play that led to a fumble recovery by the Jets.

Yes, you can be a great coach and a complete fool. The two are not mutually exclusive as anybody who has ever watched Bob Knight can attest. Ryan is a great coach, maybe the best defensive coach in the history of pro football. Ryan is also a bully who has been getting away with this behavior all his 59 years. Even so, he — with the help of linebacker extraordinaire Wilber Marshall — has made the Oilers the most compelling NFL story this postseason.

The AFC is positively chock-full

Injured Smith Says He'll Play

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Emmitt Smith was still in pain from a shoulder separation, but he told Dallas coach Jimmy Johnson he'll be ready for the playoffs.

"The doctors were talking like I'd be out three to four weeks but it's going to be more like seven to 10 days," the NFL's rushing champion said Monday in Dallas.

"He'll play a week from Sunday," Coach Jimmy Johnson said.

The prognosis wasn't so good, however, for the New York Giants' star offensive tackle, Junio Elliott, who has decided to have major back surgery, possibly as early as this week. The surgery would end Elliott's season just as the Giants are entering the playoffs.

While Elliott was not available Monday for comment, several people familiar with the situation said he informed coaches and several players that he was in so much pain after the 16-13 loss to Dallas on Sunday that he changed his mind about waiting until the end of the post-season to have the surgery.

Elliott has several inflamed disks as well as some irritating spurs in his back, according to people familiar with his condition.

As for Smith, he spent Sunday night in Baylor University Medical Center after the Giants game. "I'm glad I did," he said. There's still a lot of pain.

With his right arm dangling at his side during much of the second half, Smith finished with 32 carries for 168 yards.

of playoff intrigue. The big question about the Oilers is whether the team will be collectively ready for the psychiatrist's couch after two weeks off.

All in all, it's tough for the NFL to have a better story line to start the playoffs. Or for that matter, to and the regular season. Where are all you people who moaned and whined about how bad the NFL was this season? All we had Sunday were three overtime games, one of the best games of this or any other season between the Cowboys and Giants, the Dolphins and Jets unable to secure playoff berths by losing to teams with nothing at stake, a 59-year-old man punching his assistant on the sideline, and a guy who should have been in the infirmary winning the game and his third straight rushing title.

As it turns out, every team in the NFL showed improvement as the year went on, except the Redskins, Colts and Rams. This is not the crowd you want to run with. The

Saints, Bears, Falcons and Dolphins fell off the table but at least they were in contention into Week 15. Meanwhile, the Patriots, Seahawks — and to a lesser extent, the Buccaneers — established themselves as legitimate competitors for next season. Even the Bengals looked respectable by season's end. What else would you want over the past six weeks of the season that it didn't offer?

Two teams in the NFC can get to the Super Bowl, the Cowboys and 49ers. The Giants blew their shot Sunday when a division championship and home-field advantage gave way to a wild card and a Jan. 16 trip to either Dallas or San Francisco. The Giants would love for Green Bay, the lower seed, to upset Detroit and force New York to travel to Candlestick, where the Giants have won before (See NFC title game, 1991).

Three teams in the AFC can get to the Super Bowl, the Bills, Chiefs and Oilers. Bills-Oilers: The Sequel in Rich Stadium on Jan. 23 would

be completely irresistible, maybe more drama-packed than a Cowboys-Niners rematch. As much as I'd love to see Joe Montana vs. the 49ers in the Super Bowl, what we're probably looking at is either a Texas shoot-out or the Bills as "Jason," the team that won't die. Regardless, as long as we get the Cowboys or Niners, the Bills, Oilers or Chiefs, there would seem to be enough excitement to go around on the final Sunday, Jan. 30.

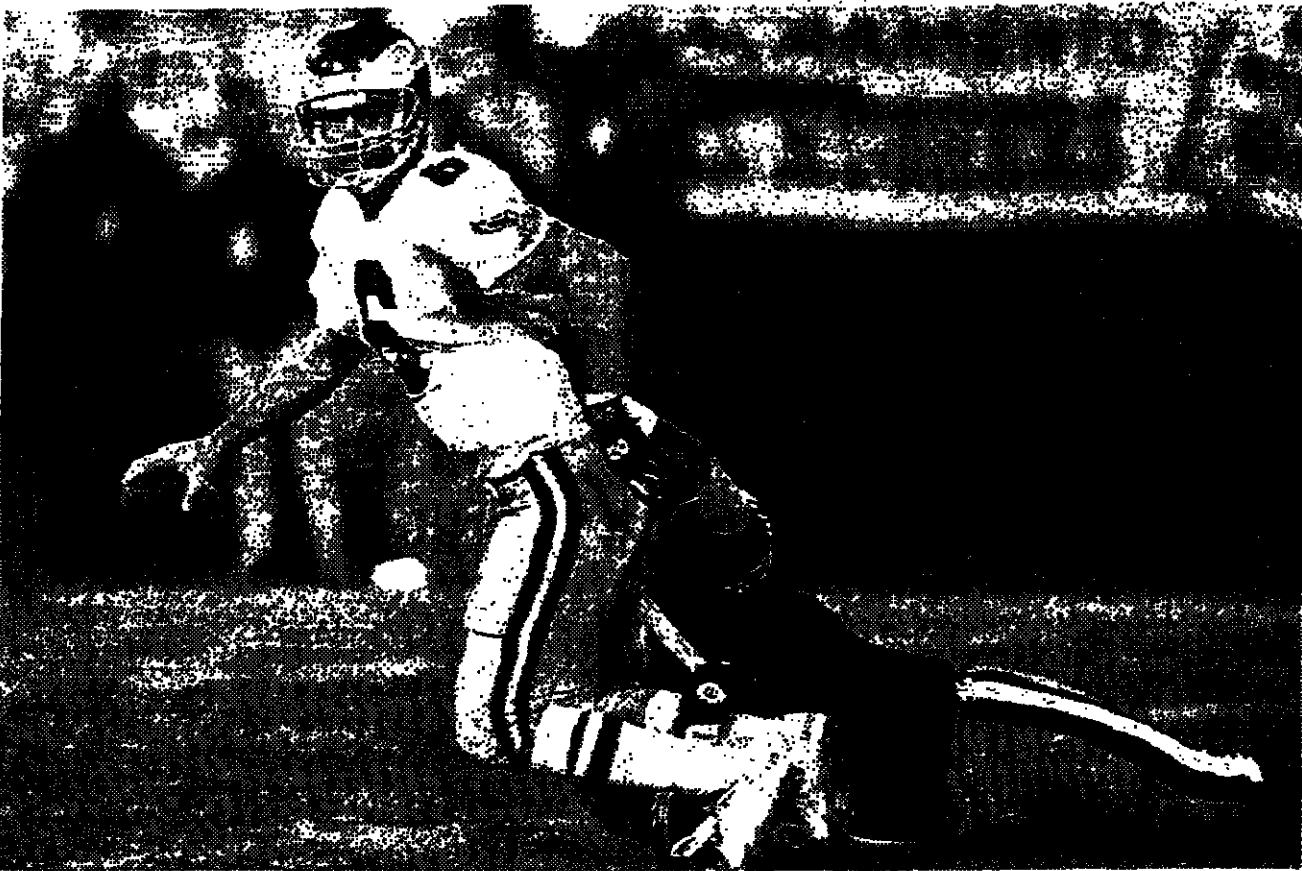
By that time, should the Oilers still be alive, Ryan will probably have a drill where the players practice hoisting him onto their shoulders and walking off the field. This is precisely what happened when the Bears won the Super Bowl in 1985. They carried him off the field. This was about 10 weeks after Ryan nearly came to blows with the head coach, Mike Ditka.

Ryan, in the 1985 thriller between the Dolphins and undefeated Bears in the Orange Bowl, assigned a second-year linebacker named Wilber Marshall to cover Miami wideout Nat Moore. Ditka, after unsuccessfully trying to get Ryan to replace Marshall with a cornerback, had one final solution for his stubborn defensive coordinator.

"Buddy," Ditka said that Monday night on the sideline, "let's settle this out back." Maybe Ryan isn't a complete fool after all, because he backed down, knowing Ditka would have knocked his head off. But Ryan ultimately did enough things his way and the Bears won.

Two weeks ago in Pittsburgh after a gigantic road victory — the kind the Oilers were almost incapable of pulling off before Buddy — one offensive player shrugged his shoulders when asked about Ryan. "Look, the guy is a great coach," he said. "He's also the craziest SOB I've ever been around. But with the results he has, you have to let him be."

And that's probably what the Oilers, players and coaches and club officials will do: let Buddy be, and keep their guard up.



Philadelphia quarterback Bobby Brister trying to shake off San Francisco's Karl Wilson during the Eagles' 37-34 victory over the 49ers.

A Loss to Eagles Leaves the 49ers Concerned

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — It was supposed to be a mere tuneup for the San Francisco 49ers. What they need now is a brake job, a realignment, an overhaul.

Philadelphia 37, San Francisco 34 does not inspire confidence.

There is the temptation to say it doesn't matter, not with Steve Young and Jerry Rice and Ricky Waters and John Taylor, the stars of the team, playing little more than half the game Monday night to protect them for the playoffs.

In any case, breakdowns on the defensive line and in the secondary

allowed the Eagles (8-3) to get away to a 24-3 lead. And although the 49ers (10-6) caught up, they eventually lost their third game in the last four.

And with less than two weeks to go before the 49ers' first playoff game against Minnesota, the New York Giants or Detroit, Coach George Seifert is worried.

"They have to realize they can't expect to get off to this kind of start and still win a ball game," he said.

"I think this team, we don't really see the potential," Rice said. "It's up to the older guys to let the younger guys know that we're only go-

ing to get one shot at the playoffs. You can't come out lagging. You've got to come out 100 percent."

Young managed to even the score at 24-24, with a 38-yard TD pass to Taylor, before he came out. And backup Steve Benson kept the 49ers flying with the Eagles to 34-34 with the help of Mike Cofer's 29-yard field goal with 12 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

But when Cofer barely missed a 32-yard field goal attempt, that could have won the game in overtime, the 49ers defense let the Eagles go from their own 22 to the 49ers' 21 with a bunch of short runs

and one 32-yard pass from Bobby Brister to James Lofton.

The 49ers caught a break right there when Roger Ruzek's 36-yard field goal attempt drifted wide right. But a roughing-the-kicker penalty on Morton Hanks gave Ruzek a second chance from 28 yards and the clock reading 00:00. This time Ruzek did not miss.

Still, Young won a third straight NFL passing title — something no other quarterback has done. Young threw for two touchdowns, completing 15 of 19 for 165 yards and finished with a 101.5 rating. He edged Dallas' Troy Aikman, who ended the year with a 99.0 rating.

Colombia's Challenge Is to Keep Its Exotic Talents in Line

International Herald Tribune

LONDON — One door opens, another closes. The new year is a two-way process for two of soccer's most colorful, most captivating personalities.

In Colombia, Rene Higuita, the national goalkeeper, has been released on bail after seven months imprisonment awaiting trial for allegedly acting as a go-between negotiating the freedom of a kidnapped girl.

In Turkey, Tanju Colak, the golden boot of goal scoring, starts a sentence of four years and eight months for smuggling a Mercedes car into Ankara.

Their advocates depict them as victims of their own fame. It is as if Higuita and

Rob Hughes

Colak, mavericks of their trade, were being made examples of unforgiving juridical attitudes. As outsiders, we are in no position to judge. But as Higuita emerges thinner and less humorous after his hunger strike in jail, as Colak goes down, we can see that sport does not absolve a man from the recriminations of the law.

Sport, in other words, is merely a branch of life.

Life on the extremes when it comes to Higuita's Colombian teammates. There is a growing conviction down South America way that Colombia, the team that demolished Argentina, 5-0, in Buenos Aires, has the most exciting, most exotic collection of individual talents on earth.

They also have a rhythmic style — slow, slow, quick, quick, quicker — the counter with opponents in the heat and humidity of the World Cup in America this summer. The Latin game, retaining possession, waiting and plotting the moments to burst goalwards, is more likely to prevail in those conditions than the methodical, dehydrating running of Europeans.

But Colombia? Has it the discipline, the dependability, to go seven games in a month for the supreme prize?

For the sake of Francisco Maturana, the national coach who set aside his professional dentistry at the University of Antioquia, I would like to think so.

Maturana, 44, a former central defender, has spent seven years opening the once clamped mouth of Colombian soccer. He rejected his country's defensive neurosis,

he ignored threats on his life by drug cartels, he befriended players who came from the mean streets with nothing but their skills, and he set the path of a now-rare soccer philosophy of allowing individuality to breathe spontaneously within a team.

Yet, there is always the danger of such a policy self-destructing. Maybe it is already beginning. Take Faustino Asprilla, the leggy, explosive attacker who caught our imagination at the Barcelona Olympics.

Whatever moves Asprilla — and it moved him to a \$4 million transfer to Parma in Italy — is hard to govern. It comes and it goes. No defender can counter it because not even Asprilla knows when his turbo boost will activate.

Unfortunately, no one, not Maturana and not Asprilla's club coach Nevo Scala at Parma, can be sure he will turn up for training, let alone matches.

Parma, the paymaster of Parma, has so far been benevolent. It plans a promotional push into the United States around him.

But right now the Italian media are enjoying the wild side of Asprilla, reporting that he has sent his wife and young son home to Colombia while he pursues the favors of a porn actress.

She, Petra Scharabach, has told the press: "He hasn't scored many goals lately ... and he certainly is not going to score with me."

A nice mess developing for one of Maturana's potential world stars. But the professor knows that managing soccer players is like running a large family; Asprilla is one of nine children, and a formal education is not his forte.

At least he knew his father. Others in the team admit they were abandoned in early childhood. Defender Luis Carlos Perea went through the courts removing his father's name from his passport, and rebuked a journalist for asking what that name is.

"I've forgotten it," he responded. "It's not worthwhile remembering." Perea shares that abandonment with Higuita, and with midfielder Leonel de Jesus Alvarez, whose mother had to take in sewing through the night to provide for her brood.

"One day," Leonel used to tell her, "I will be rich, and you will live like a queen."

His midfield partner Gabriel Gomez is another street-wise player. Gomez has a father who came to the end of his tether with a miscreant youngest son expelled from school for putting dead lizards in the

teacher's desk. He sent him to Guayaquil, to the harsh environs of Medellin, at the age of 12 "to teach him the realities of life."

Contrast that to the studious Alexis Antonio Mendoza, a defender from Barranquilla. At 16, sent to work in a plastics factory to help his family, he took a degree in business administration at evening classes at the National Institute of Commerce.

At 21, he graduated. By then he was blossoming as an entirely self-taught soccer player, one who conditioned himself to training alone each night after studies.

The articulate Mendoza often sparks the runs of the sky, sometimes match-winning runner Freddy Eusebio Rincon, who from the age of 12 never had to express himself in any other way than with a ball at his feet.

Carlos Valderrama, the giant of Colombia's creative midfield, was known at the age of 9. He is a product of the beach soccer on Colombia's northern coast.

Valderrama, by turns actor, play-maker, pretender and catalyst, identifies the whole panoply of what Colombia might, or might not achieve in 1994. And that, a mirror to life, is all or nothing.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times.

Petitbon and Glanville Lose Coaching Jobs

The Associated Press

The Washington Redskins and the Atlanta Falcons dismissed their head coaches on Tuesday after disappointing seasons in the National Football League.

Richie Petitbon was dropped as coach of the Redskins four days after the team finished its worst season in three decades. Petitbon, 55, the team's defensive coach since 1978 who patiently waited for a chance to run the Redskins, was out after one season. The Redskins finished last in the NFC East with a 4-12 record.

"With regret and after much thought, I have decided to release Richie Petitbon as head coach," Redskins owner Jack Kent Cooke said. He called Petitbon "a personal friend of mine for years."

The Washington Post reported that the Dallas Cowboys offensive coordinator, Norv Turner, 41, tops the Redskins' list of candidates.

Jerry Glanville, meanwhile, was dropped as coach of the Falcons after a 6-10 finish in the NFC West. Taylor Smith, the Falcons' president, said, "We felt it necessary to make this change now so we can start early in making the right decisions for '94."

"Many of the reasons we did not make the playoffs this season are not the fault of Jerry Glanville," he said, "but the head coach is ultimately judged on the won-lost record of the team."

The Falcons opened the season with five straight losses and closed with three. They were 23-38 in four years under Glanville. Smith said the search for a new coach would begin immediately.

DENNIS THE MENACE



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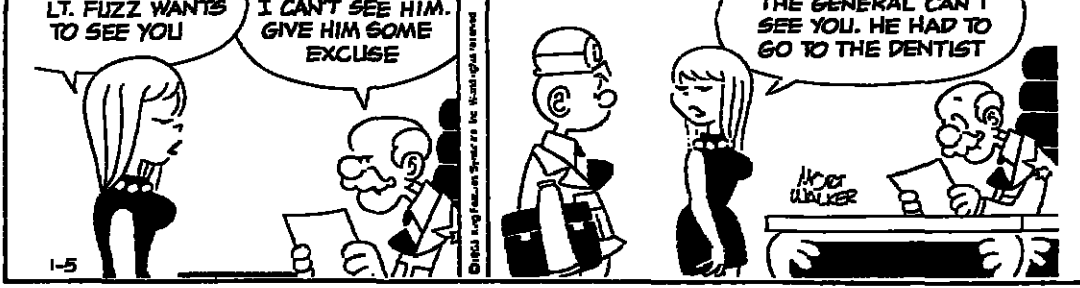
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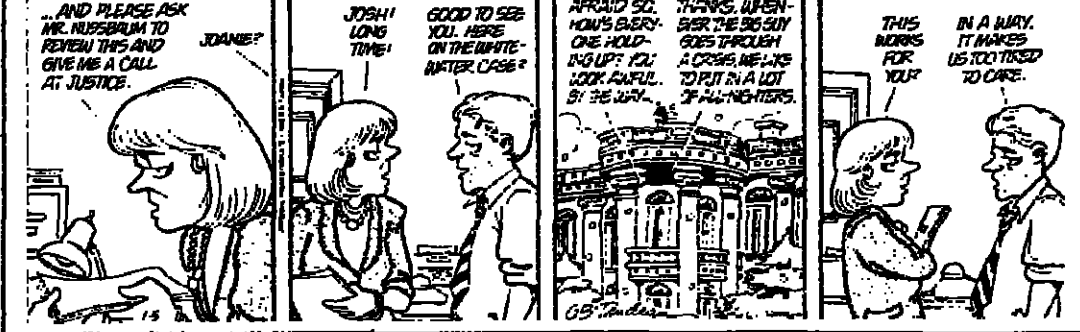
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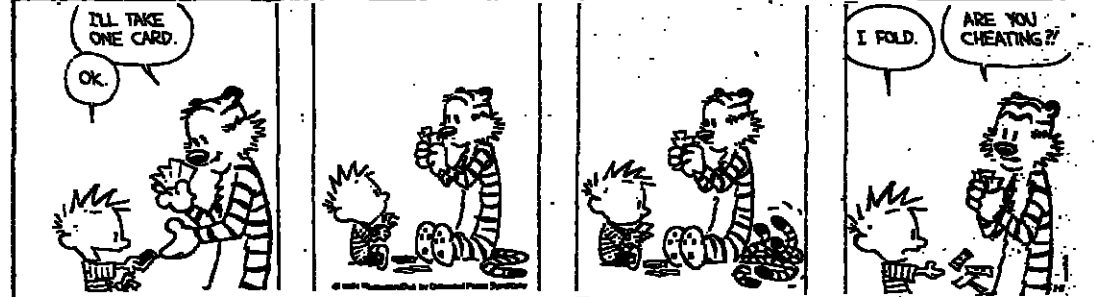
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GARFIELD

WOULD YOU MIND ROLLING AROUND IN THESE BREAD CRUMBS WHILE I PREHEAT THE OVEN?

WHAT? WOULD YOU RATHER BE GRILLED? PREPARE!

JIM FOWLES 1-5-94

SPORTS

Lendl Fails to Hoist the Stars and Stripes

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PERTH, Australia — Ivan Lendl's debut for the United States proved an "embarrassing flop" on Tuesday as his adopted country was swept out of the Hopman Cup team tournament by unseeded Germany.

The 33-year-old Lendl, who won 10 Grand Slams, 10 years ago and became an American citizen in July 1992, and his partner Mary Joe Fernandez were outplayed by the more youthful German duo of Bernd Karbacher and Anke Huber.

The Germans walked into the semifinals of the mixed competition with convincing singles wins.

The 33-year-old Lendl was hammered, 6-3, 6-1, in just 75 minutes by the pencil-thin Karbacher, who is 25. Before that, Fernandez had been outplayed, 6-2, 7-6, by Huber, who is 19.

The Americans won the meaningless doubles 5-3 in a pro set.

Two of Lendl's former competitors, meantime, clinched a place in the last four when the top-seeded Czech Republic beat Switzerland, 2-1, largely thanks to Petr Korda.

"It is always disappointing to lose any match and once you are on

court you don't look up at the scoreboard to see what is written next to your name," Lendl said when asked if he was disappointed to lose his first match on any U.S. team.

Lendl has been busy this week deflecting enquiries about how long he intends to keep playing and his stunning performance against Karbacher will do little to quell the speculation.

He made a string of errors in the first set, barely hit a third of his first serves in and squandered a 40-0 lead in the opening game of the second set, giving his opponent even more confidence.

Karbacher had already sensed his first career win over Lendl was a possibility, clinching victory.

"It tells me quite a few things about my game. I didn't play very well," admitted Lendl. "Whether it was lack of match play or not, we will see."

"It is always difficult in your first match of the year," Karbacher conceded he had been freed from pressure by Huber's win.

"After I broke him for the first

time, I thought 'I can beat him,'" he said. "I tried to dominate him... you have to take risks if you're playing a top player."

Lendl finished last year ranked 19th in the world. It was the first time since 1979 that he had finished with a ranking below the top 10.

In a career that has produced 94 singles titles, Lendl won only two events in 1993 — at Munich and Tokyo.

Lendl had hoped to use the Hopman Cup as part of his preparation for the Australian Open, which begins Jan. 17 in Melbourne. He now will practice in Sydney before playing in next week's New South Wales Open.

Karbacher started the rout by playing far too steadily for Fernandez, who has three Grand Slam titles to her credit. The German has been practicing all week with close friend Andre Medvedev and had an edge in power and accuracy over Fernandez in their baseline rallies.

"If you practice with the male players it gives you an advantage because the men hit the ball faster than the women," Huber said.

Her win over the world No. 5 took just 71 minutes.

The German took the decisive second set 6-2 break 7-4 when Fernandez dumped a backhand in the net.

Germany, which won the tournament last year when Michael Stich and Steffi Graf formed the team, now meets Austria in Thursday's second semifinal.

The Czech combination of Korda and Jana Novotna face Australia in the other semifinal on Wednesday, a tough proposition for the home nation if Korda repeats the form that dazzled Swiss pair Jakob Hlasek and Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere.

Korda, who beat world top two Pete Sampras and Michael Stich on successive days to win the Grand Slam Cup last month, destroyed Hlasek 7-6, 6-2 and his combination then tipped the scales in the decisive mixed doubles.

Novotna had earlier given her partner plenty to talk about by losing her singles match against Maleeva-Fragniere, 6-4, 7-5.

Last year's Wimbledon finalist has yet to win a singles match at the event in three attempts.

(Reuters, AP)



Ivan Lendl, representing America for the first time, during his loss to Bernd Karbacher of Germany.

Sick Player Keeps Utah Healthy

SALT LAKE CITY — Karl Malone was feeling ill and was relieved he was needed for only 30 minutes against the Dallas Mavericks.

He still finished with 19 points, nine rebounds, five assists and three blocked shots in Monday night's 115-83 victory.

"I've got this cold, you know, and it was a back-to-back game," he said.

NBA HIGHLIGHTS

after Sunday night's 92-90 victory at Portland. "Plus, we've got to get ready for Phoenix" on Wednesday.

"So it was sort of neat to take some time off," he said.

John Stockton thought so, too. "We've got a tough stretch here this week. Five games in seven nights is a real load, said Stockton, who had 10 points and 12 assists in 28 minutes.

The win was Utah's fifth straight, ninth in its last 10 games and 10th straight at home. It was Dallas' 26th loss in 28 games.

Tom Chambers scored 20 points for Utah. Jim Jackson led the Mavericks with 23 points.

The Mavericks got within 60-52 with 7:31 left in the third quarter when Popeye Jones was called for a flagrant foul for elbowing Karl Malone in the head.

Dallas coach Quinn Buckner was assessed a technical for protesting, and Derek Harper then drew a technical as well. Stockton made three of the four free throws to put Utah ahead, 63-52.

Lakers and Sonics Fined

The NBA on Monday fined half a dozen players for fighting during last Wednesday's game between the Lakers and the Seattle SuperSonics in Los Angeles, Agency France-Press reported from New York.

The Lakers' Doug Christie was fined \$3,500 for starting the fracas late in the third quarter. He pushed Seattle's Ricky Pierce, who was fined \$2,500 for fighting back.

Anthony Peeler of Los Angeles was fined \$2,500 for grabbing Pierce and pushing him.

James Worthy of Los Angeles and Sam Perkins and Vincent Askew of Seattle were fined \$2,500 apiece for leaving their benches.

George Washington Stumbles

The Associated Press

OLEAN, New York — When St. Bonaventure upset George Washington, the Colonials' coach was pretty sure he knew what had happened.

For one thing, Coach Mike Jarvis said, his 23rd-ranked team obviously took St. Bonaventure lightly Monday night with No. 7 Temple coming up Saturday. More important, he said, the George Washington team obviously thinks it's better than it is.

"My guys probably have been reading the paper and believing that because they're ranked in the top 25, they can just step out on the court and automatically magic's going to happen," he said.

The magic, if there was any, was all on St. Bonaventure's side as the Bonnies won their first Atlantic 10 Conference game in the last 18 tries, 71-67.

St. Bonaventure improved to 4-5, and 1-2 in the conference, while George Washington fell to 6-3, 0-1 with its second loss in a row.

Center Jeff Quackenbush's 3-

pointer with 1:30 to play put the Bonnies up for good, 68-67.

And throughout the game, he played tough defense on George Washington's 7-foot-1 (2.18-meter) center Yinka Dare.

Dare finished with his average in points (17) and rebounds (8), but he also had three turnovers.

"I just tried to use my hands a lot more than I have before," said

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Quackenbush, who is five inches shorter and 45 pounds (20.4 kilograms) lighter than Dare. "I got some fouls, but I stole it from him a couple of times."

Harry Moore had 22 points for St. Bonaventure, while Quackenbush finished with 16.

No. 1 Arkansas 96, Southern Methodist 76, in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The Razorbacks (9-0) forced 30 turnovers and pulled away with a 17-2 run midway through the second half. Al Dillard had 18 of his 23 points in the sec-

A Hitler's Birthday Game?

Reuters

BONN — German and English soccer officials will meet this month to decide whether to go ahead with an exhibition match in Hamburg in April on the anniversary of Adolf Hitler's birthday, a German official said Tuesday.

The Germans have already given up hopes of staging an under-21 game against England in the city the day before the April 20 exhibition because they fear clashes between rightist extremists and some of the numerous leftist groups in Hamburg.

Horst Schmidt, general secretary of the German soccer federation, said Tuesday that the federation planned a meeting with Hamburg officials, who are worried about security, and English Football Association chiefs to discuss the possibility of crowd trouble.

"We have received a letter from the English federation and from leftist groups who are expressing concern about the match," Schmidt said.

A spokesman for the FA in London denied sending the German federation a letter regarding the cancellation of the match but confirmed that discussions with the federation would continue.

Schmidt added: "Later this month we plan to meet Hamburg officials and it is proposed that the English will be represented."

"The leftist groups in Hamburg believe it will be

very difficult to avoid trouble if rightist extremists come to the match."

Hamburg council spokesman Peter Kelch said the city's security department was worried about the match in the Volksparkstadion on the outskirts of the city.

"We were given this date without having a chance to object to it," Kelch said. "We are very, very worried about the date."

The German soccer federation is considering various possibilities, including advancing the match by a day.

But it looks likely that the federation may have to move the match to another city or possibly abandon it altogether and choose another opponent in the world champions' build-up to the World Cup in June.

Schmidt said moving the game forward 24 hours would not necessarily stop trouble.

"People who are going to take advantage of the match on the 20th could also use the 19th," he said. "The problem is that this date has taken on a significance that it has not had for decades."

"As far as we are concerned it has no value. And we are going to do everything we can to battle against it," the soccer official said. "England-Germany is very special for us. We don't get the chance to play each other very often."

Fresh Charges In Racist Attack On U.S. Sledders

Reuters

BERLIN — Nine German neo-Nazi skinheads who attacked U.S. luge team members at a training camp in October will be charged with grievous bodily harm, prosecutors said on Tuesday.

State prosecutor Erich Racher said charges would be brought soon against the nine for their involvement in a racist attack on the American athletes, two of them black, outside a disco in Oberhof.

A separate trial for two leaders of the attacks who were charged in December will start Jan. 17 in Suhl, court officials said. If convicted, the 16-year-old and 21-year-old defendants would face up to five years in jail. Racher said it was probable that the U.S. athletes would attend the trial as witnesses.

The U.S. luge team, which had been training in Norway for the Olympics, will return to Oberhof Jan. 10-16 for a World Cup competition.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
New York	18	8	.692
Orlando	16	12	.571
Miami	13	13	.500
New Jersey	12	16	.429
Boston	11	18	.380
Philadelphia	11	17	.393
Washington	9	20	.308
Central Division			
Atlanta	19	7	.731
Chicago	17	13	.565
Charlotte	13	13	.500
Indiana	10	16	.385
Detroit	8	20	.286
Minneapolis	8	20	.286
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct

